

Southern California's Computer Magazine

November 29, 1995 • #144

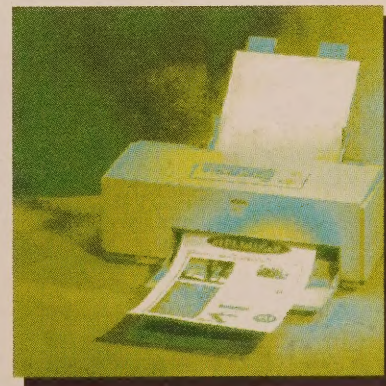
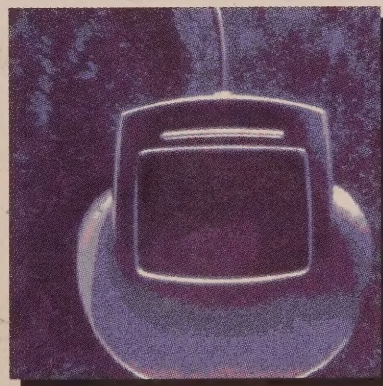
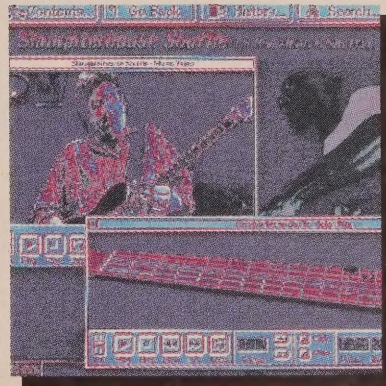
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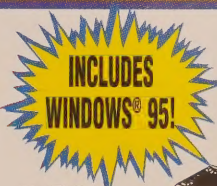
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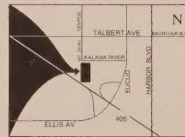
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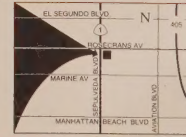
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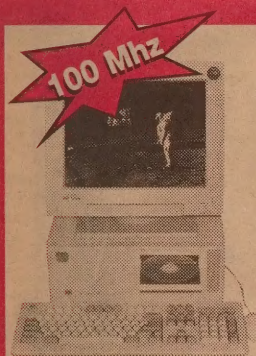


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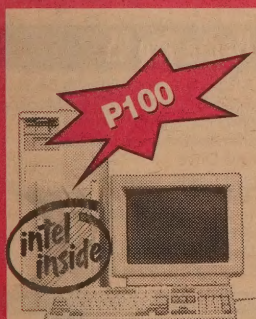
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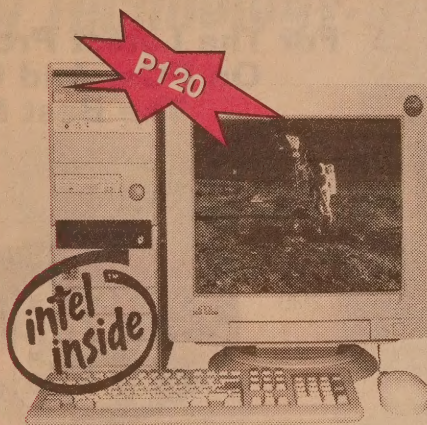


P100

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P75



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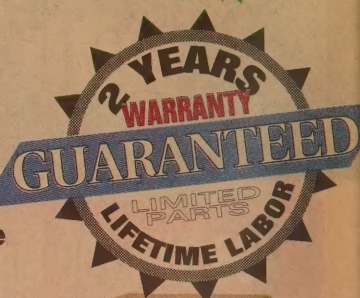
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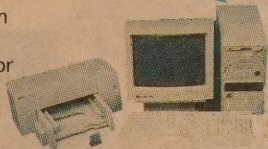
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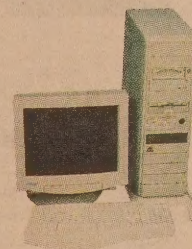
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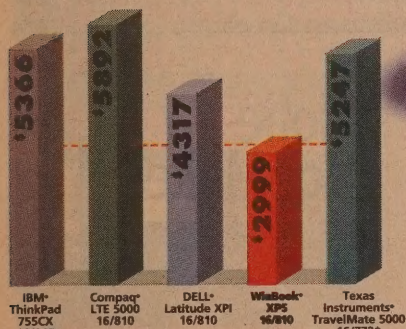


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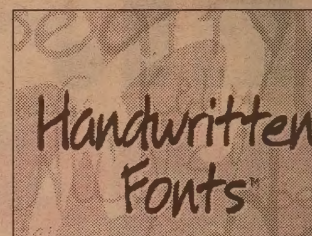
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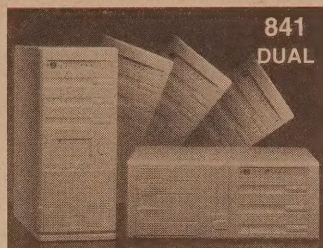
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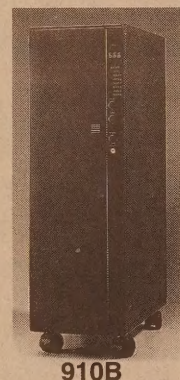
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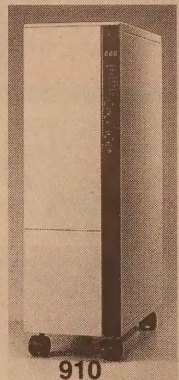
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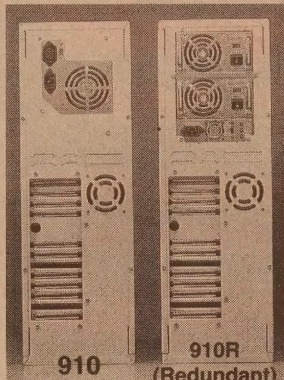
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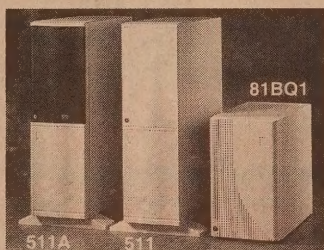
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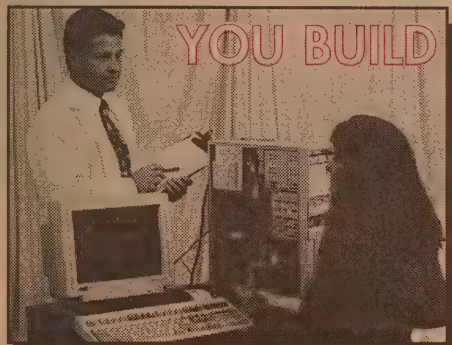
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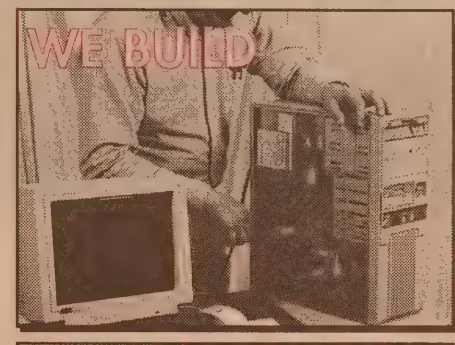
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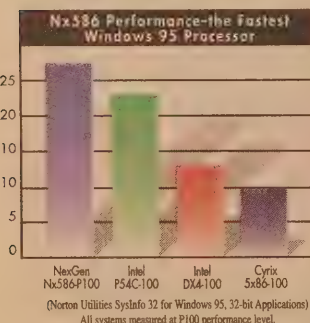
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This Vol. 11 No. 13 November 29, 1995, Whole No. 144. MicroTimes, California's Computer Magazine, is published by BAM Media, Inc., 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Phone Advertising Office (510)934-3700. Fax (510)934-7351. email Microx@well.com Los Angeles Office, 6767 Forest Lawn Drive, Suite 110, Los Angeles, CA 90068. Phone (213) 851-8600. Fax (213)851-8303. San Jose Office, 36 Harold Ave., Suite 2, San Jose, CA 95117. Phone (408) 244-4400. Fax (408) 248-4552. Anaheim Office, 801 East Katella Ave., Suite #210, Anaheim, CA 92805. Phone (714) 939-2809. Fax (714)978-6135. MicroTimes™ is © 1995 by BAM Media, Inc. Subscription rates: 14 issues, U.S.: 4th Class \$35 (Allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery), 1st Class \$65 (Allow 1 to 2 weeks for delivery). MEXICO & CANADA: Surface Mail \$50 (Allow 4 weeks for delivery). Air Mail \$75 (Allow 1 week for delivery). OVERSEAS: Surface Mail \$50 (Allow 6-10 weeks for delivery), Air Mail \$178 (Allow 1 week for delivery). To receive sample issues, please send \$5 (\$6 for overseas) to cover postage costs. Back issues are \$6 each. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission of Publisher is strictly prohibited. The staff and management of MicroTimes do not advocate or encourage the use of any product or service advertised herein for illegal purposes.

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Dangerous Games

Our Small Office/Home Office Columnist Suggests Diversions That Can Refresh You, Reinvigorate You, And Eat Up Your Entire Day

By Birrell Walsh

You've written and rewritten that crucial paragraph four times. You think you should write it again—something is off about it—but the letters are beginning to run together and blur. Your left brain is toast. You cannot look at one more piece of text.

You could throw the computer through the window and join the fisher-folk on the Gulf Coast. Or you can take a break of some sort.

The Future And The Past

As a small-office operator, you know that virtual reality is coming fast. But just what does it look like when it's done right?

Classical scholar George Osmun has found one example. He recommends you take a trip to San Francisco's de Young Museum in Golden Gate Park. There you will see an unparalleled virtual reality exhibit, cocreated on a Silicon Graphics platform by Carnegie Mellon University and the Museum. It is called "Virtual Pompeii," a work-in-progress reconstruction of daily life in Pompeii just before the unfortunate incident with Vesuvius.

If you are fortunate, you will have Dr. Louise Chu (assistant to the curator of Ancient Art) to guide you, as we did.

The first part of the exhibit is the temple of Isis ("I am Nature, the universal Mother, mistress of all the elements, primordial child of time, sovereign of all things spiritual, queen of the dead, queen also of the immortals, the single manifestation of all gods and goddesses that are," she says to Lucius Apuleius). With glasses, you get to see a full screen projection of the temple in 3-D. If you walk near the priest, you can hear him chant in Latin. If you draw very close, you can hear him in English. Another priest plays

the double flute hauntingly while you virtually tour the feast room decorated with Pompeii's famous wall paintings. You can try the headset and trackball yourself and take your own virtual tour of the temple that fateful morning in the year 79.

Temple of Isis, Pompeii from *Virtual Pompeii*. Photos courtesy M.H. de Young Memorial Museum.

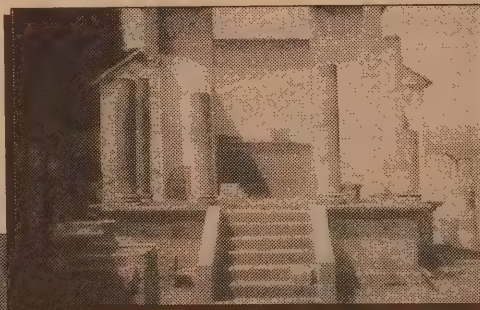
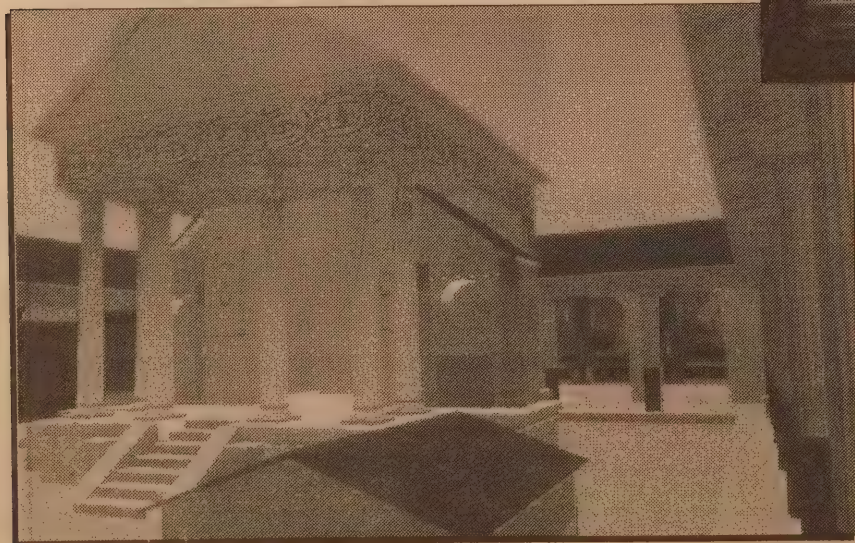
If you have ever wondered just what VR can do, this is a chance to see it at full use, cheap. The exhibit runs until January 7.

Keeping The Little Sim-People Happy

A trip to the museum takes a day. If you want a *big* break, consider SimTower.

Matt Elmore is a professional announcer. A regular on San Francisco's public radio station KQED-FM, he is also the voice of KQED-TV. His warm ursine inflection is in demand; he has a free-lance business voicing copy as well.

He therefore has little time to fritter away. But as a friend, he volunteered to take a look at Maxis's new Windows version



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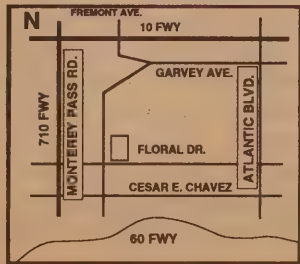
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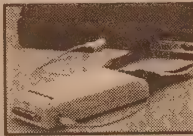
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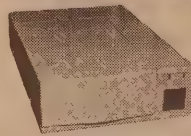
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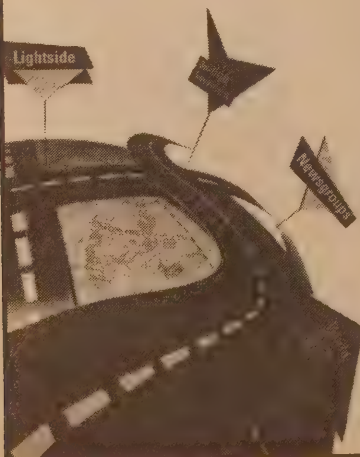


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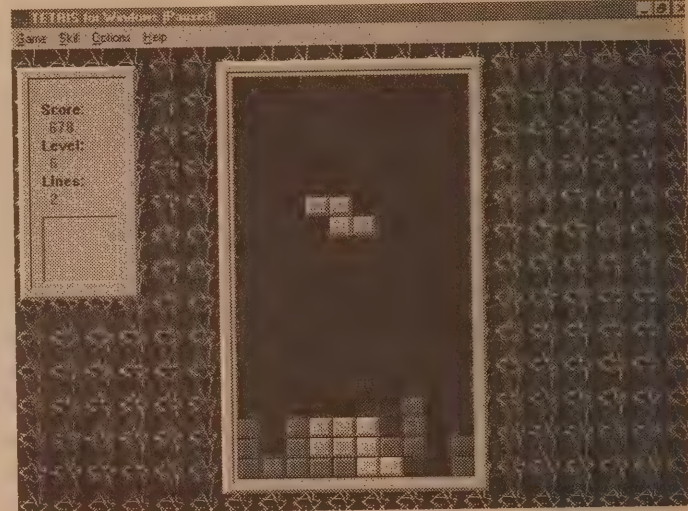
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Dangerous Games *continued...*



of SimTower. This Macintosh version
won a 1994 SPA award as best simulation
of the year, and to hear Matt's
report, it deserved it.

Matt and his son Nick are veterans of
Maxis's simulated worlds and fond of
them. They have become masters of the
various SimCities. When they first started
SimTower, they thought they were
getting a small subset of the problems of
running a city.

Not so, it turns out.

SimCity has a certain elasticity,
because it deals with a whole ecology,
and a proper ecology has alternative
paths. SimTower has much less give in it.
In this game, you are running a business.
The business is huge, but it has the
same unforgivingnesses that a business of any size has. You make it, or
you crash.

Your mission (should you decide you accept) is to build a working
business tower. Beginning with a wee, short thing, you must
move it to five-star status. That involves getting one hundred stories
and (I kid you not) a cathedral on top.

You cannot use the Ramses II strategy and simply build 100 stories
with forced labor and plop a temple at the summit. You must make a
working business of the tower.

Matt reports, "If you expect your building to grow in size,
becoming the self-contained, self-reliant, city-within-a-city that a
tower is, you need to keep your occupants happy. This game tracks
time by changing from day to night, weekday to weekend, and fair
weather to foul. As buildings fill with people at the beginning of a
work day and empty at night, your elevators need to be plentiful
enough and available enough to handle the traffic. You're given the
ability to schedule your elevators so that they are readily available

continued on page 24

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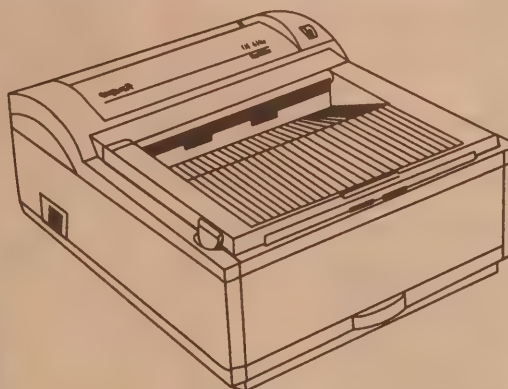
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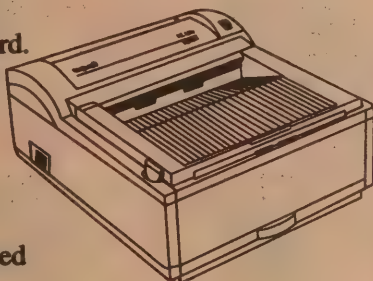
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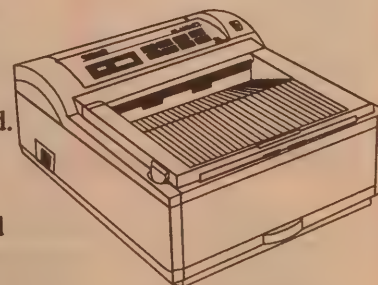
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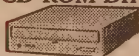
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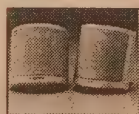
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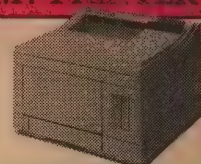
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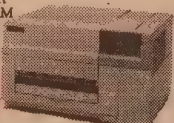
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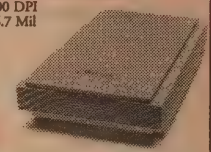
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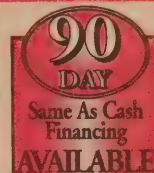
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Dangerous Games continued from page 18

when they're needed most to move your people around.

"Again, you can only expect to keep tenants that are happy, so if they have to wait for extended periods of time to get to their destination, they won't be too happy. Fortunately,

you're warned when you're approaching that point: The crush of humanity waiting for the next elevator car turns from black to pink with irritation, and from pink to red with rage.

"Should you get far enough along that you put in a movie theater, you'll want to make sure that

show times don't coincide with the beginning or ending of a workday. You'd wind up with a lot of bright red people waiting for the elevators. If your building is tall enough, you'd be well advised to think seriously about express elevators (at \$400,000 apiece).

"Similarly, tenants don't like 'noisy' neighbors, so you need to pay some attention to the placement of elements within your structure. No fast food restaurants next to condos, for example. You also have the capability to name businesses as well as individual tenants and to follow them throughout the building."

A SINGLE GAME OF FREECELL CAN OCCUPY YOU FOR MANY DECADES, AS YOU TRY TO VERIFY THAT EVERY GAME IS (AS THE INSTRUCTIONS ALLEGE) WINNABLE.

Matt's experience resembles that of another Sim veteran, Suvid Tubtimcharoon. He had a record of mastering Maxis's products in short order. He expected to conquer SimTower in a few hours. He found that SimTower was different—a "creation *ex nihilo*," a work of art rather than the contest with pre-made challenges of other Maxis simulations.

He solved the game all right, constructing a block-square tower with the requisite cathedral. But it took him several days of hard work. "When you play this game, there is no other challenge, no disasters or whatnot—just you working to build your empire. It's an art form. If there are problems, *you* made them.

"The game as a whole forces you to think differently. SimTower looks boringly simple; but this game drew more imaginative, strategic creativity from me than any straightforward simulation."

The message: SimTower is as hypnotic as Tetris, but *huge*. If you start this game, you will be at it until you complete your tower.

Microsoft Entertainment Pack

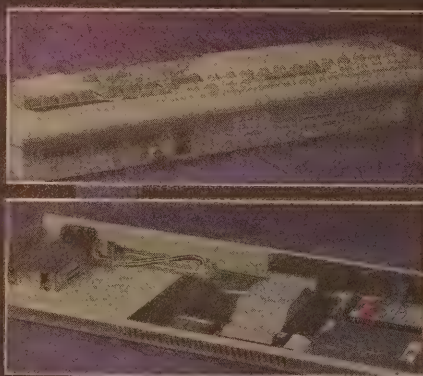
It is curious how much it can help to turn from
continued on page 78

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tion to any new or existing network. The KNS is fully tested and compatible with Novell NetWare, Windows and DOS environments.

To find out more about the KNS (Keyboard Network Station), give us a call and let us show you how we have taken computer design out of the stone-age.

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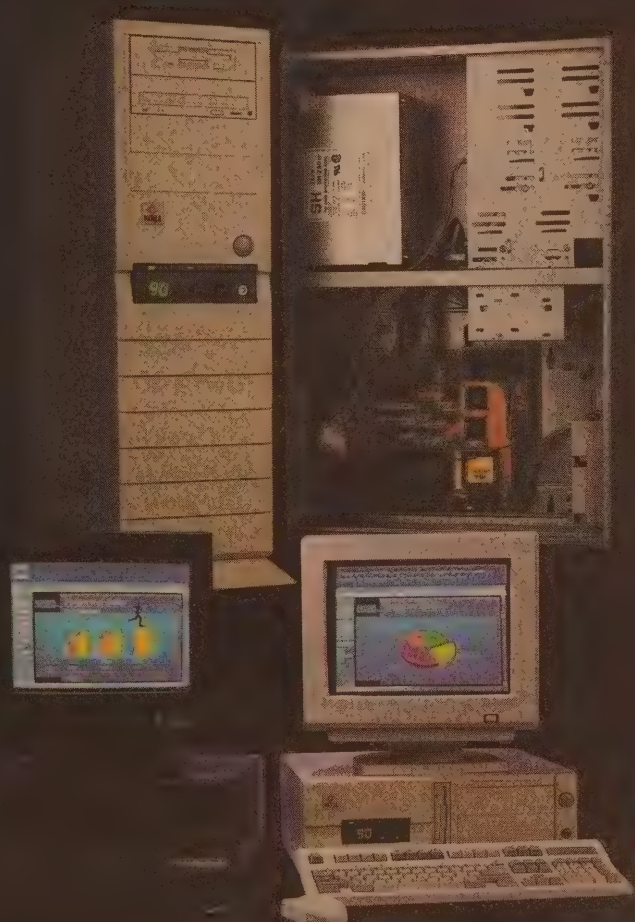
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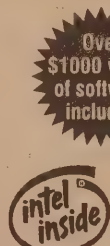


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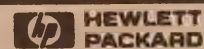
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Can Broadcast Media Become Customer-Driven?

Each Sunday night during the later months of '94, viewers of the NBC show *seaQuest* began comparing notes with one another via the Internet. In a challenge to the top brass of the TV industry, these ordinary *seaQuest* viewers, banding together on the Internet from sixteen nations, became so well organized that they are effectively demanding input into the creative direction of this expensive series.

Initially, just a few dozen viewers chatting about the show online became upset when *seaQuest*, once a high-minded science-fact series about ocean exploration, hacked off much of the old cast and veered off course into the murky waters of sexed-up fantasy. Soon, *seaQuest* acquired a few nicknames on the Internet—"Bayquest 90210," "Das Bomb," "Voyage to the Bottom of the Barrel," and "seaBreast."

Online Campaign

By December 1994, frustrated and disappointed viewers began to organize in earnest. One viewer in California wrote up a petition and sent it to an online friend, a woman who is herself a member of CompuServe's powerful Sci-Fi Writers Forum. They passed it back and forth between themselves for a week, editing and re-editing the petition.

Then the petition was posted online in various CompuServe forums and dropped into the email boxes of SF viewers. Several hundred users signed on, becoming the start of a core group. The petition made its way to AOL, and was picked up there by users who also had access to other services such as Prodigy and GEnie.

When a call for volunteers went out, users responded enthusiastically. A dozen regional US coordinators, online coordinators for all services, and three overseas coordinators were all self-appointed.

seaQuest Fans Lobby From Cyberspace For More Science, Fewer Bimbos

By Gordon Feller

A small petition that began on CompuServe exploded into a real campaign, first organized around five thousand signatures from all over the world collected by dozens of coordinators in key cities. High school students collected signatures in hallways. Viewers shipped off hundreds of letters to Steven Spielberg's Amblin Entertainment (the show's producers) and to NBC. A Web site devoted to the campaign was visited by tens of thousands.

An official global clearinghouse was established in California, equipped with fax and copy machines, three phone lines, a network of computer equipment, and campaign stationery with logos. New local coordinators popped up each day,

including volunteers as far away as Canada and Australia.

"*seaQuest* is marketed in many different countries," says one volunteer manager of the San Rafael clearinghouse. "Savvy viewers began to suspect that *seaQuest* was being dumbed-down during the '95 season to appeal to the larger global market. But if that's true, it's a mistake. I'm hearing a lot of global grumbling over the Internet. The Australians are particularly unhappy with the shows that are being served up for their consumption each week."

Power To The Viewers?

What makes this campaign unique, and what in turn apparently makes the NBC execs so uneasy, are the campaign's demands. While viewers would like to see the series renewed, it comes with a pretty strong caveat: improve the show—or else. Couch potatoes are demanding the chance not only to talk back to the tube, but to be heard. To make certain they get heard, they've mobilized significant numbers of like-minded viewers to forward messages of protest about show quality to Amblin and NBC via email, snailmail, fax, and phone.

"SAVVY VIEWERS BEGAN TO SUSPECT THAT SEAQUEST WAS BEING DUMBED-DOWN DURING THE '95 SEASON TO APPEAL TO THE LARGER GLOBAL MARKET."

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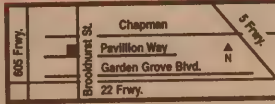
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

seaQuest continued...

Some of the changes the viewers are demanding include: stronger and more complex female roles; more cast diversity: the average age of the cast is very young, and viewers say that although it may be pretty to look at, it's actually monotonous; de-emphasis of "cleavage," which has been handled in a tasteless and gratuitous manner all season; a significant improvement in the writing (character development and continuity are particular issues with the viewers); more attention to be paid to accurate science; and complete and unequivocal withdrawal of the exceedingly unpopular fantasy/monster/psychic phenomena themes that seem to pop up with all too much regularity.

When pressed by viewers, NBC's VP in charge of programming Preston Beckman made a dramatic public admission in a live AOL chat in late April: NBC had changed *seaQuest* dramatically because the show was on a "ratings downtrend

runner, admitted to being influenced by the campaign in that same week's *TV Guide*. Among other things, he said that "we [at NBC] absolutely overstepped our boundaries at one time or another...the episode where we tried to

bring the mythic figure of Neptune into America's living rooms was a good example of our reach exceeding our grasp."

This particular episode brought howls of online protest from viewers. The series had been plagued throughout the '95 season by absurd story lines, poor scripting, and

an apparent lack of long-term vision. This particular episode featured a trident-carrying Neptune (referred to in the show as a "Greek god!"), a superfluous shower scene highlighting

continued on page 218

A FEW DOZEN VIEWERS CHATTING ABOUT THE SHOW ONLINE BECAME UPSET WHEN SEAQUEST, ONCE A HIGH-MINDED SCIENCE-FACT SERIES ABOUT OCEAN EXPLORATION, HACKED OFF MUCH OF THE OLD CAST AND VEERED OFF COURSE INTO THE MURKY WATERS OF SEXED-UP FANTASY. SOON, SEAQUEST ACQUIRED A FEW NICKNAMES ON THE INTERNET—"BAYQUEST 90210," "DAS BOMB," "VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE BARREL," AND "SEABREAST."

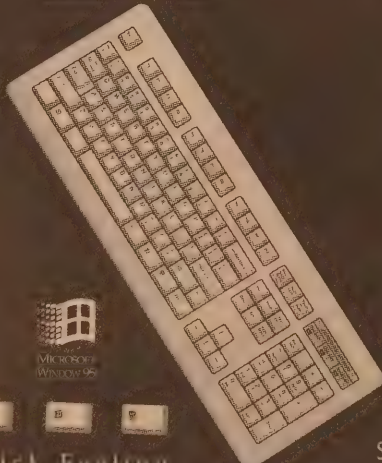
and the network thought that a change in premise might help, but we were wrong. We just pissed off the core viewers."

Further, Patrick Hasburgh, *seaQuest*'s show



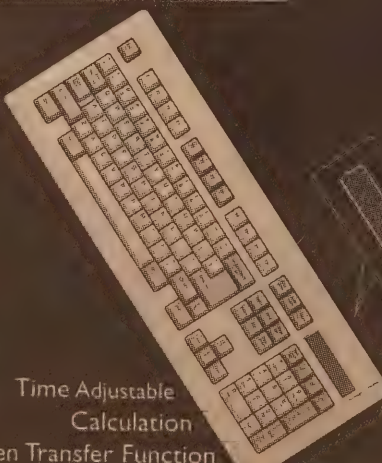
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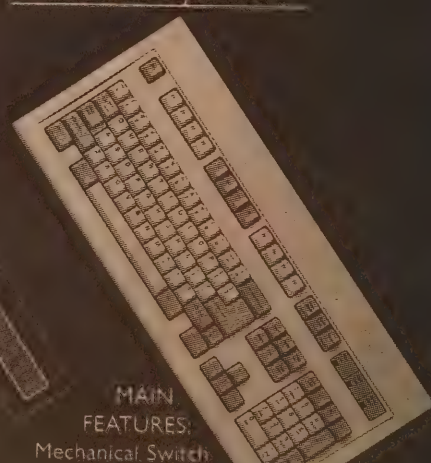
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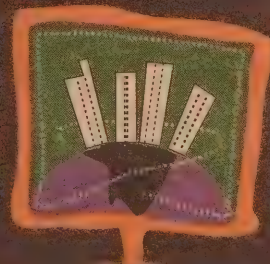
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Lima, Ohio, Goes Online

Public/Private-Sector Collaboration Helps Town In Transition

By Cynthia Dyer-Bennet

To some, Paul Monus is a visionary, to others, a dreamer. Some may have chuckled at his utopian image of linking the citizens of Lima, Ohio, to each other and the rest of the world through modems, microwave, public access television, and LANs, but they've stopped laughing. For the past few years, Monus and others who shared this vision have pushed, pulled, poked, prodded, and cajoled the community towards actualizing this goal.

Monus is senior project manager at the BP Lima Refinery in Lima, a small town located about 75 miles northwest of Columbus, the state capitol, and 150 miles southwest of Cleveland. The city has a population of about fifty thousand, with another fifty thousand residing in outlying areas. The population is 74.5% white, 24% black, and 1.5% other minorities. The median annual income is around \$21,000. There's a Ford plant, a number of Honda parts manufacturing businesses, a General Dynamics M-1 tank factory, and a major refinery that was established by Rockefeller in 1886. It is a manufacturing town that is suffering the economic backlash of a world moving away from heavy industry and towards an information-based work structure.

BP's Global Connection Inspires Local Version

Monus has worked at the BP plant for the last seventeen years. In recent times, BP has successfully linked all but some of its hourly workers throughout the world with a communications network. "All the salaried and management people are on it," says Monus, "and secretaries, too. Within the last five years, everybody has been linked up."

He sees the sharing of information as a key to the economic and social well-being of a community. "If we try to know everything individually, it's both hard and very expensive. It would be smarter if we worked together and pooled our informational resources," he explains.

As an example, he cites a difficulty his BP site was having with a process unit. "Nobody locally could figure out how to solve the problem, so we arranged a video conference with some people in London, emailed them some data, did some experiments at the plant to narrow down what was going on, and eventually solved it."

Now Monus wants to see similar connectivity provided to the public, a step he sees as imperative for Lima's survival: "As we change from the man-

ufacturing age to the knowledge creation age, these kinds of tools will not only become useful but actually vital if we want to succeed and prosper as a community."

Monus points to the benefits this connectivity will provide. Farmers can share information about their crops, senior citizens can organize group get-togethers, and healthcare officials can keep abreast of the latest developments in the medical community.

He also has his eye on the long-term future. It's undeniable that computers and all their interactive capabilities are going to be the primary tools of both business and community interaction in the twenty-first century,



Right: Paul Monus, Dianne Moots, and Greg Burton; above: rural connectivity.



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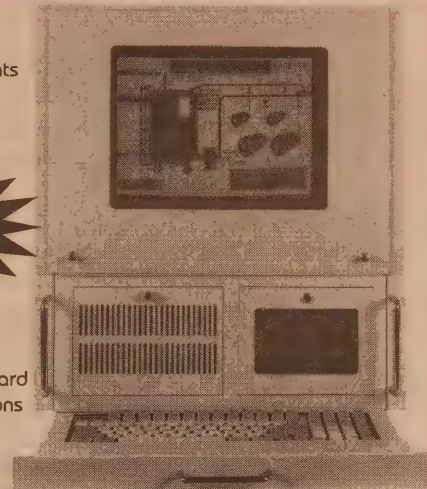
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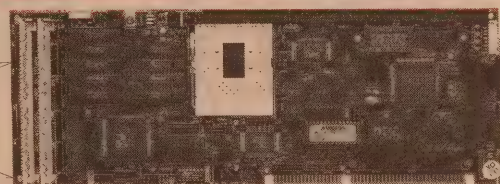
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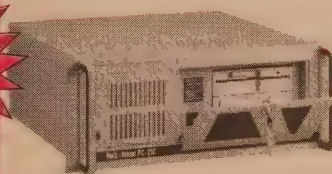
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Lima, Ohio Goes Online *continued...*

and Monus wants to give the youth of Lima a leg up on the technology. Plans for including both lower- and upper-level educational institutions in this network are already under way.

WORC-Net

Monus's energy and zeal for this project seem boundless, and sometimes overwhelming. When asked to provide a "bit of background data," he sent over eighty pages of information via email, and backed it up with a video and an additional 350 pages of typed material via snail mail.

Fortunately, his evangelism is contagious. Not only are plans going well, they're ahead of schedule. A projected start-up date of January 1996 for beta testing of an electronic community network, WORC-Net, will happen much earlier.

WORC-Net stands for WestCentral Ohio Regional Community Net. WORC-Net partners have been struggling with the best way to bring the network to the largest number of people at the lowest possible cost, and much of the ongoing labor is being done by volunteers. "Essentially," says Monus, "we want to be able to pay for our help desk, our technical person and our training staff." Another way to keep the overhead down, according to Monus, is to contract out some of the hardware maintenance.

During the beta testing, a small cadre of individuals will be working towards establishing content on the network. "We are organizing our information providers who will champion each special interest group on the server," explains Monus. Farmers, senior citizens, healthcare institutions, United Way agencies, labor unions, small businesses, real estate developers, county and city government—these are the sorts of groups who will be putting data online for the eventual use of the entire community—"We're trying to figure out how to create the information that will be on there, and recruit the volunteers who will load the information. We'll have two things: permanent information for people like farmers, and temporary information like chat rooms and listservs."

The idea is to allow the information

providers to familiarize themselves with the system prior to the projected public opening on March 1, 1996. "In January or February of 1996 we'll start inviting the helpers of the providers to come online, so by March we'll have all the glitches and bugs worked out," says Monus.

A Long Time Coming

Plans for this network have been under consideration for several years. Monus explains that a tremendous amount of time was invested in researching the most reliable and affordable system requirements. He consulted with John Quarterman of Texas Internet Consulting and Dennis Newman, who helped developed DARPA-net, the forerunner of the Internet. Their input helped Monus formulate a concrete plan when choosing hardware and software to run WORC-Net.

The system, a DEC Alpha box with 128MB of RAM and 12GB of hard disk space, will run UNIX. The software, a collection of freeware programs called Chebucto Suite developed in Nova Scotia, will use standard Internet tools integrated for the purposes of the community network. The Web browser will be Netscape for GUI graphics interface and Lynx for text-based access. SLIP and PPP dialup access will be provided, as well as remote login for telnet clients. There will be local Usenet newsgroups for conferencing, listserv for private conferencing, IRC chat, and ftp.

A T-1 link to Columbus has already been made available by Lima Technical College with the help of LTC's president, Dr. Jim Countryman. "It's just one more piece in this grand plan that will give the Lima area a communications infrastructure second to none in the world," says Countryman of the upcoming network.

The driving force behind this project is a partnership that includes Lima Technical College, Apollo Career Center, the Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce, the West Central Small Business Development Center, the West Central Ohio Regional Development Board, and Information Technology Partners.

ITP, which Monus cochairs along with Jamie Wyant, a computer teacher in a nearby suburb, is a nonprofit community organization formally established in October of 1993. Monthly meetings, some via interactive videoconferencing to include outlying districts, kept the enthusiasm for the project growing.

Initially, the focus of discussion was on what hardware and software would be needed to accomplish connectivity. It soon branched out to include consideration of more ephemeral issues, such as what kind of support and training should be provided and what kinds of information should be available.

Online Issues

One issue of concern has been censorship, particularly in a situation in which children will have access to online activities. Monus notes that a balancing act must be performed to honor the concept of free speech while not allowing any individual or group to step over the line of community standards.

"This is currently a hot topic," he says. "Fortunately, we have some excellent librarians who have been struggling with this issue. This is a very conservative community. Lima has the distinction of being one of the most Republican communities in the United States, in spite of the fact that Ohio is Democratic in general. As such, any kind of thing that might be construed as anti-family, risqué, will have to be examined."

He acknowledges the impossibility of 24-hour-a-day monitoring, and says that, ultimately, the answers lie in parental supervision. "Parents need to be involved in developing the moral character of the children. There is going to be some profanity that you just can't stop. I wouldn't try to filter everything that kids do, you just have to let them learn to grow up. The ultimate solution is developing a trust in the children."

He believes the ability to change logins while engaged in "chat" sessions has a positive function, particularly for people unfamiliar with the rough-and-tumble world of online conversation. "People can say what they truly feel with-

ONE ISSUE OF CONCERN HAS BEEN CENSORSHIP, PARTICULARLY IN A SITUATION IN WHICH CHILDREN WILL HAVE ACCESS TO ONLINE ACTIVITIES. MONUS NOTES THAT A BALANCING ACT MUST BE PERFORMED TO HONOR THE CONCEPT OF FREE SPEECH WHILE NOT ALLOWING ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP TO STEP OVER THE LINE OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS.



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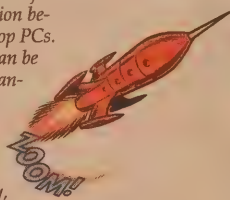


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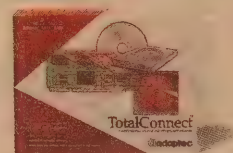


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John C. Dvorak,



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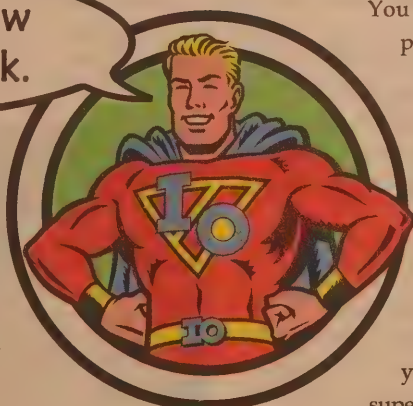


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July 1995 PC Magazine

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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3 Holiday Gift Guide

Lima, Ohio Goes Online *continued...*

out the threat of being embarrassed. If they are flamed by someone, they can just leave the chat room and reappear named as someone else, thereby surviving the flaming process much more easily than in real life."

Outside of chat functions, however, users will not be able to alter their IDs. "It gets back at the incentive to not violate community standards. If you're not willing to be known by what you're saying, there's a risk that there's something wrong going on there," he says.

Funding for this project has come from a range of sources. BP donated used computer equipment. The Ohio Board of Regents awarded a \$200,000 grant for start-up money, and WORC-Net partners will provide an additional \$303,355 via fundraising and in-kind donations.

Emailathons In Schools

ITP's roots go to prior organizations with similar goals, such as Science Across the World, a UK group formed by the Association for Science Education; the Lima Area Macintosh User's Group, a community organization composed primarily of educators intent on increasing community involvement through the use of computers; and BP's Science Enhancement for Science Advancement Program. SESA stresses hands-on, interactive learning focused on enhancing science education and learning motivation for K-8 students.

One of SESA's ongoing projects is an annual science showcase at Lima's Civic Center. This showcase, open to the general public, features science experiments conducted by local students. At the 1993 science showcase, ITP arranged to hook up six personal computers to BP's email system. Through postings to the net, Monus organized participation from locations including Norway, Finland, South Africa, and Israel, as well as many within the United States. The offsite hookups were located at BP plants and schools around the world with Internet connectivity. Students, teachers, the general public, and BP employees exchanged email, held conversations through IRC, and sent faxes to each

other. The \$1000 cost of the emailathon was underwritten by BP.

M.C. Morgan, an assistant professor of English at Bemidji State University in Minnesota, emailed Monus after the event with his enthusiastic observations. "There seemed to be a significant number of student-aged girls involved in the event, which, I hope, will pay off for everyone, with more women going into the sciences and on the networks... I could imagine some of the kids' expressions when someone they didn't know actually replied to their words. They were being heard!... A powerful demonstration of literacy across cultures and communities."

Kevin Schroeder, an operator at the Acrylonitrile Plant in Lima, was also enthralled with the experiment. "IRC is truly a great equalizer. I had a heated political discussion one evening with someone about the current welfare system, and health care, and other things. Later, I found out I was debating a 14-year-old boy! Amazing..."

Clare Wale, a teacher in Sunbury, England said chats were a great hit with her pupils. "The students were bowled over by the fact that they were having multiple conversations with people all over the world."

The event was so successful that three more emailathons have been held since then, with plans for another in development. Though Monus doesn't have figures on the total number of participants at each of the gatherings, he expressed delight in the turnout. "It is hard to know the exact number, they can come in through IRC chat or via email," he said. "But one particular time we made an effort to count and we had over two thousand nodes. That's an

unbelievable number—two thousand of them took time out of their lives to talk to each other at once."

Future Plans

WORC-Net is just part of a larger scheme for Lima's connectivity. Eventually, Monus expects to see links provided through bookmobiles using microwave linkup.

"There are a lot of farmers and rural people who have no cable TV, but they have microwave antennae. There's a local provider who down-



Dr. Jim Countryman, President, Lima Technical College

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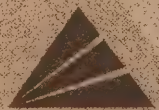
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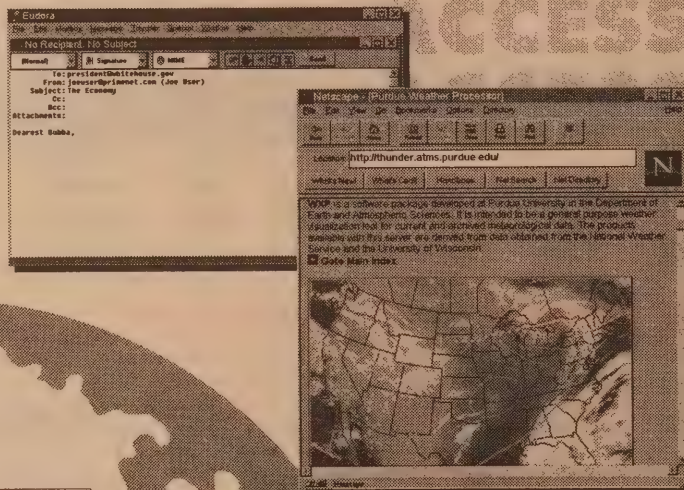
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Lima, Ohio Goes Online *continued...*

loads satellite signals and resells them to these rural people. At the moment, it is only being used for one-way downloading, but one of the things we want to do as part of this development effort is to let the farmer have reciprocal publishing access," he says. Though funding for this portion of the plans is not yet available, optimism prevails among the partners.

Monthly Internet "jam sessions" are held as training grounds for those with no computer skills. "We've been borrowing schools with net access," Monus explains. "There's a program with an instructor with an overhead doing demonstrations, then everybody can practice at these sessions. We've been doing this work mainly with teachers, but it's open to the public."

Provisions are also being made for the economically disadvantaged. Plans are on the drawing board to install the BP-donated computers in local libraries, malls, and community centers. Public access television is another portion of the program. "We've got the financing we've got an authorization from the City Council, we'll be going online in March of 1996," Monus said. The public will be encouraged to make their own videos and publish them. Super VHS video cameras will be available on loan to those who don't have their own.

Yet another area the WORC-Net partnership is exploring is distance learning. According to Monus, Sprint United and Time/Warner became interested in Lima as a testing ground for their joint ventures. They laid fiber optic cable connections between two Lima area K-12 schools some 40 miles apart. Local citizenry could participate in classes by going to the nearest Distance Learning Labs, watching, and responding to instructors through videoconferencing. "That was successful for about two years," said Monus. "Though the schools saw the value in it, there wasn't enough funding to continue, so it went dark. But all the hardware is still there." Plans to revive the system are in the works.

Monus sees cyberspace as an energizer for people who have lost their lust for knowledge. "Kids are born with a love of learning. People who quit learning start to stagnate," he says. "Part of the appeal of cyberspace is that it rekindles that love of learning that may have gotten lost or gone dormant, and gives them an opportunity to grow." ■

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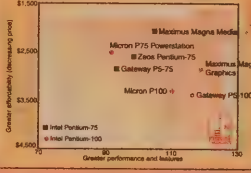
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Holiday PC Shareware Roundup

You Don't Have To Pay Top Dollar
To Get Great Software

By Lenny Bailes

The PC shareware marketplace has been evolving recently to keep pace with the migration to more powerful computers and operating systems. Whereas most programs used to be designed for DOS and sold on 5.25" disks, an increasingly large number of shareware products are now written for Windows or Windows 95 and distributed on one or more 1.44MB 3.5" disks. (Some of us may even remember when floppy media were referred to as "diskettes" rather than "disks.")

The minimum hardware baseline for current PC shareware has also been bumped up gradually. You'll need a VGA monitor display, 80386 or 80486 CPU, and a few megabytes of extended memory to run any of the packages we discuss here.

The basic policies governing shareware use, however, remain fairly constant. Shareware programs can be had for the cost of the diskettes that contain them, or downloaded from your nearest public bulletin board system. (A number of authors have also begun to distribute their products and/or offer technical support through the World Wide Web.)

You have a period of weeks or months to evaluate the software at your leisure. If you decide that you like what you see, a registration fee of less than \$100 will get you full documentation, technical support, and access to program enhancements.

The Association of Shareware Professionals is an organization that exists to monitor program quality, protecting both authors and consumers. If you find a READ.ME file included with a package that pro-

claims the author a member of ASP, you have several guarantees: 1) you won't be getting a "crippled" package that deliberately disables program features, 2) the package has been tested to meet certain standards of quality, and 3) the authors won't suddenly skip town when you need technical support.

Here are some of the 1995 crop that are suitable for holiday season gifts:

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If you have any "poweruser" friends who've recently upgraded to Windows 95, they'll find this little set of utilities to be a priceless jewel. And in this case, "power user" can be loosely defined as anyone used to easy and flexible desktop management through packages like Xtree, PC Tools, etc.

One of the disappointments of Windows 95, to many users, is the limitation of its Explorer shell even when compared to the File Manager that was bundled with Windows 3.1. Win 95 users may quickly discover, to their dismay, that Explorer is awkward or nonfunctional for a variety of file

management tasks. It offers no easy way to horizontally and vertically tile file windows, view directory listings by file extension, display side-by-side listings for two drive partitions, customize confirmation preferences for COPY/MOVE/DELETE, perform file operations on a group of filtered items, or configure and edit application/file associations.

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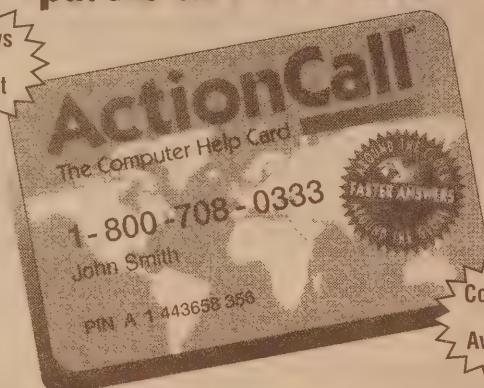
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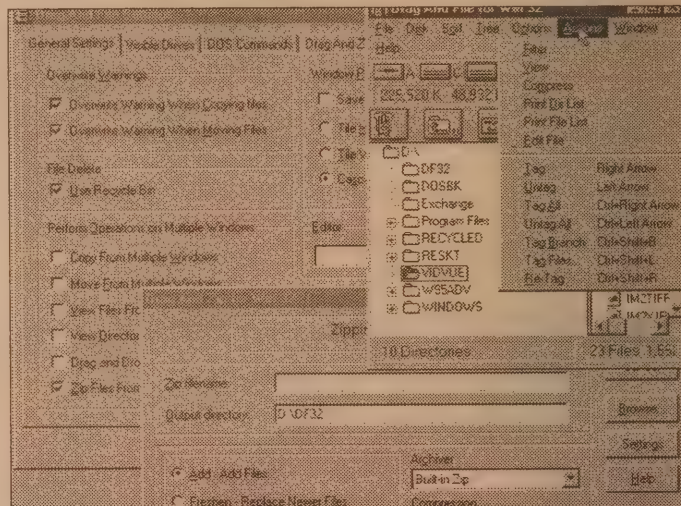
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Fun And Games: The 3rd Annual Holiday Gift Guide

Holiday PC Shareware Roundup *continued...*



Drag and File.

Drag and File comes to your rescue by providing the full functionality that was formerly available in Windows 3.1 File Manager, plus some new Win 95 bells and whistles. It can handle all of the tasks discussed above, with support for Win 95's long filenames and right-click mouse options. Drag and File includes an augmented toolbar, and pulldown menu functions that hook into Win 95's QuickView and Network Sharing features. It can tag/untag selected directories and files, sort in ascending or descending order, print, launch programs, find files, display multiple filtered file lists, and set custom confirmation options for each window.

A companion program, Drag and Zip, turns the interface into a full-featured archive manager, allowing you to compress and decompress files on the fly with your chosen compression utility, drag and drop files into and out of zipped archives, and convert zipped archives into self-executing files, simply by right-clicking the mouse.

Drag and Drop/Zip is the brainchild of well-known Bay Area shareware programmer Dan Baumbach, who is also a past ombudsman of the Association of Shareware Professionals. Windows 3.1 versions of these utilities are also available on your local BBS, or from Baumbach's (Canyon Software) Web page.

Windows Instant Resume

This word processor-like utility will be useful for any of your friends engaged in a job hunting quest. It provides a series of formatted resume templates for academic, business, managerial, and technical positions.

A series of buttons makes it easy to reformat the appearance of the headings and descriptive information in each of the resume templates. You can switch fonts, make multiple columns, or choose a look-and-feel from one of the pre-formatted style buttons. One menu option provides a thesaurus of "action words" that can be inserted into a resume to juice up its appeal to corporate marketroid types. Other options activate a spell-checker and date verification utility.

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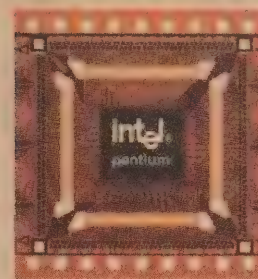
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual} 3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Holiday PC Shareware Roundup *continued...*

The package includes a tutorial document that guides you in choosing an appropriate resume type and developing content for it. The tutorial also provides job hunting interview hints and resume do's and don'ts. This program runs under both Windows 3.x and Windows 95.

COMt—Instant Windows Telnet

There is nothing so rare in the world of Windows and Internet connectivity as a decent, inexpensive utility for telnetting into remote bulletin boards and information access sites through a TCP/IP connection. Some \$200 and \$300 communication packages are beginning to include Telnet support, but those of us with older communication software are usually forced to rely on buggy little utilities with no terminal emulation, no upload/download capability, and little or no ability to capture or scroll back through an online session.

COMt is a useful program that solves this problem by adding Telnet capability to any older, dedicated telecommunication package. With COMt installed, you can take advantage of the superior terminal emulation and desktop features of programs like QMODEM for Windows, MicroPhone, Crosstalk, WinComm, older versions of ProComm, or even Windows 3.1's Terminal to telnet into any Internet site through a virtual communication port.

COMt unpacks and installs in thirty seconds. All you need to do is tell it to intercept the output to an unused serial port like COM3 or COM4. Then open your normal Windows telecommunication package, set it for the "virtual" serial port, and telnet directly into the WELL, CompuServe, or your favorite Internet Relay Chat site. Once you're connected, you have all the advantages that are missing from lame-o dedicated telnet utilities. You can specify exotic terminal emulations, capture sessions, and upload and download

binary files through CompuServe B or ZMODEM.

Games

This survey wouldn't be complete without a few mentions of the really mission critical stuff:

Fuzzy's World of Miniature Space Golf: This DOS golfing adventure takes place on a wacky outer-space course with impressive VGA graphics. There are nine holes on a series of convoluted uphill/downhill greens, through mazes and twisty impressionistic obstacles.

The user gets to vary the direction and force of each swing to compete against the par for each hole. Each hole includes its own weird space-disco music collage, which plays in the background. It is a game of skill—the intensity and direction of each swing really does vary the flight of the ball from tee to green.

This shareware version includes nine holes. The registered full version is an 18-hole course with more music, animation, and zany holes.

continued on page 222

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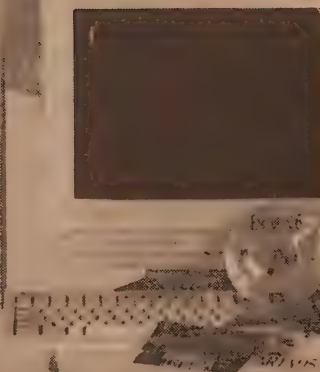
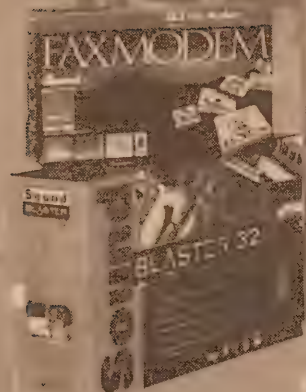


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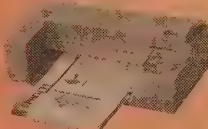
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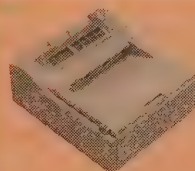
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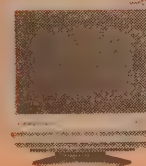
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Selecting A Printer

Many Choices, Many Tradeoffs

By Nick Anis And Craig Menefee

In the past couple of years the printer market has shifted dramatically, resulting in a staggering number of available makes and models. The range of features has become so great that choosing a printer can be very confusing unless you know exactly what you need.

Assuming you want to, you can still get a simple 9-pin dot matrix printer that rat-a-tats text onto the page a line at a time, sounding like an oversized and hardworking woodpecker. You also can get only slightly more expensive 24-pin printers, good for casual use. These workhorses are still the only printers that can fill out multipart NCR forms, still an issue in many business environments using multipart purchase orders, invoices, statements, and so on.

For better quality output, though, you won't have to shell out very much more to move up to newer technologies. You can get inkjet printers, color inkjet printers, monochrome laser printers, or multifunction printers (either monochrome or color) that also serve as scanners, copiers, and/or fax machines. Incredibly, all these options are available at street prices of under \$1000.

You can spend more, and find pretty much any type or quality of printing output that you might need (or just crave).

You can do all this for PC, Macintosh, or, in a more limited range of choices, for a mixed environment of PCs and Macs.

Tip: Typically, multiplatform support is limited to more expensive "workgroup" printers. A safe bet for multiplatform color inkjet printing is the Epson Stylus Color II. It's both PC and Mac compatible, offers the best color and text print quality in the consumer marketplace (720 x 720 in both color and monochrome), and has a street price of \$449.

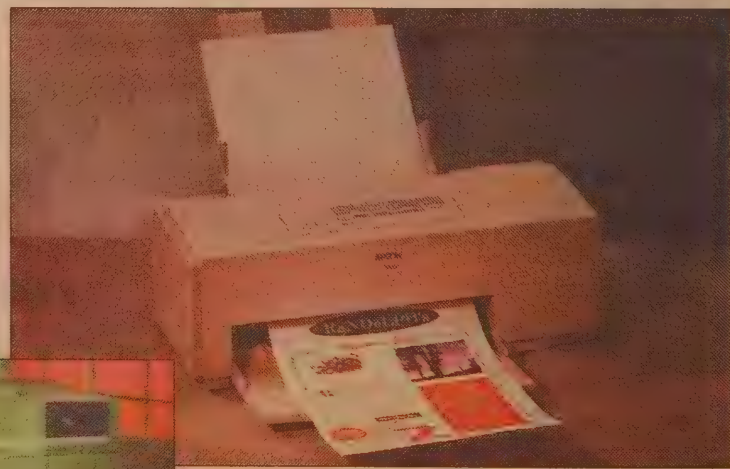
The Smorgasbord

At last count, more than fifty dot matrix printer manufacturers still offered over 350 different models. Popular printers in this category include models made by Apple, Brother, Citizen, Dataproducts, Datasouth, Epson, Lexmark, NEC Technologies, Okidata Corporation, Panasonic, Star Micronics, and Texas Instruments.

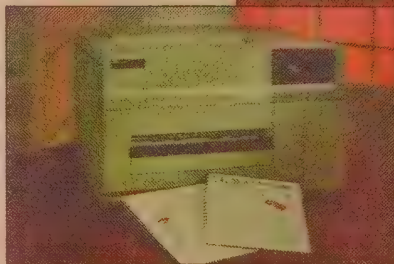
More than twenty-five manufacturers offer over ninety different inkjet

printer models. Some of the most popular are made by Apple, Brother, Canon, Citizen, Epson, Hewlett-Packard, Lexmark, NEC Technologies, Okidata, Panasonic, Texas Instruments, and Xerox.

And there's no shortage of laser printer models and manufacturers. Currently an estimated seventy-five active laser printer manufacturers offer over five hundred models. Popular units are made by Apple, Brother, Canon, Dataproducts, Epson, Hewlett-Packard, Laser Master, LexMark, NEC, Panasonic, QMS, Sharp, Texas Instruments, and Xerox, among others.



Left: Hewlett-Packard Color LaserJet printer; Above: Epson Stylus Color II.



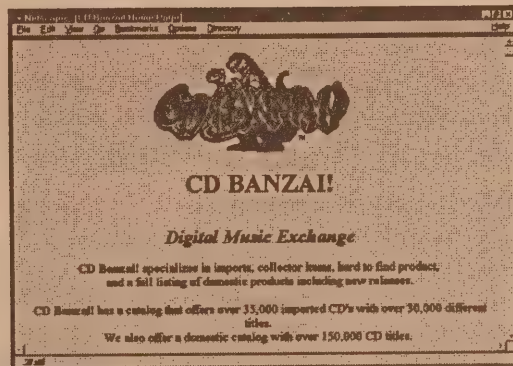
To further complicate matters, as more and more consumers get into the picture, an incredible array of new uses for printers is evolving. It's no longer just memos, letters, charts, and graphs. Now PC and Mac users can create customized stationery, greeting cards, T-shirts, stickers, cross-stitch sewing patterns, coloring books, signs, and much more.

Making The Choice

So how do you pick the right printer from such an embarrassment of choices? Whether you're working standalone, on a local area network

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Selecting A Printer *continued...*

(LAN), or across a large enterprise, you'll probably find yourself using a few standard criteria:

- Price
- Functions required
- Volume
- Physical space available
- Printing, copying, scanning, and faxing resources already available
- Hardware resources on your system—types of port, etc.

First Clue: Market Share

Sure, thousands of users can sometimes be wrong, or at least misguided. Look at the history of cigarette smoking in our culture. But you don't have to make your purchase decision completely on your own, or based on the opinions of a handful of people. You can check market shares before you pull out your check-book.

Unless you have unusual requirements, many other computer users have printing needs similar to yours. A fair number have researched the question before they ponied up any cash, and you can often save yourself some effort by letting them do your basic research for you.

Right now, market shares proclaim that it's an inkjet world for low and moderate volume printing. You'll see these devices called DeskJets and BubbleJets as well as the more generic term inkjets, but it's all the same basic technology: Ink is sprayed onto the paper in tiny droplets, to form the shapes of letters or graphical images.

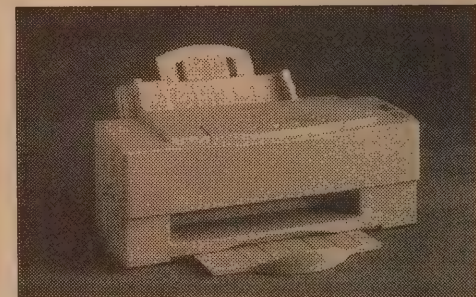
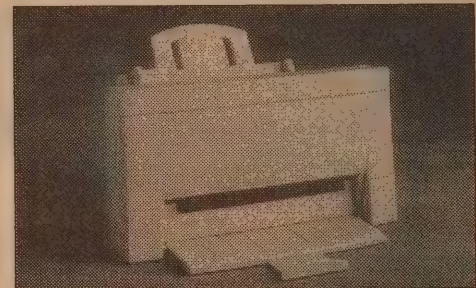
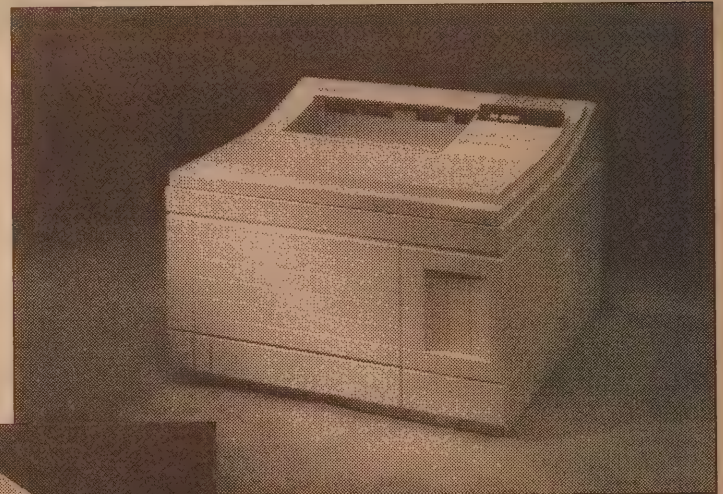
Not that the market is dominated by the old not-quite-ready-for-prime-time monochrome inkjet printers that advertised and barely delivered "near laser quality" a couple of years ago. True, those early inkjet devices weren't perfect, but they raised the standard for output quality in homes and small offices and helped usher out dot matrix printing. Suddenly, 24-pin dot matrix output lost its luster. Since then inkjet printers have dramatically improved, to the point where color inkjets now dominate, especially in the home and small office/home office (SOHO) market.

That's not to say laser printers have faded away into specialty niches the way dot matrix printers have done. According to many experts, monochrome printers still meet the printing needs of most users. But the closer you look at it, the more you'll attribute much of today's laser printing to the existing installed base.

Black-and-white laser printing can handle higher volume printing tasks; it's an effective way to make original black-and-white color separation masters for offset monochrome and color printing. Even if monochrome laser printing meets most users' "needs," it no longer seems to satisfy users' "preferences."

Inkjet Vs. Laser

For many, a laser printer is fast becoming a second choice to an affordable color inkjet printer. The primary reason? The impact of color. Secondary



Clockwise from top right: HP LaserJet 4 Plus, Canon BJC-4100 Bubble Jet Printer, Canon BJC-610 Bubble Jet Printer, Panasonic KX-P6500 Laser Printer

reason? They're as affordable as monochrome laser printers and have output nearly as good.

It makes sense. Take two sales proposals of equal value, sitting side-by-side on the desk of a harried potential customer. Yours is crisply printed in black-and-white by a good laser printer. The competition's is printed at somewhat lower resolution, in color. Which do you think will first draw the customer's eye? Remember, the first one to be picked up becomes the one to beat, the standard against which anything else is measured.

In fact, color starts out ahead of the game in any situation where visual impact is important: posters, business reports, the kids' homework, you name it.

Some Laser Advantages

Laser printers still have some convincing advantages in many situations.

Inkjet output can sometimes bleed, smear, or smudge when you handle

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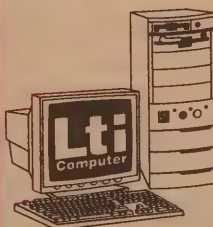
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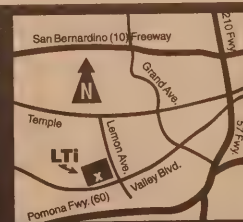
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Selecting A Printer *continued...*

it, especially if you have damp hands or use cheap-o paper: Inkjet inks do not bond as completely to the paper as do heat-bonded laser toner inks. They also are water soluble to some extent, so a coffee ring can do more than just leave a stain; it can actually run the ink. This state of affairs is changing, however, as chemists work on the problem. (Canon, for one, keeps more than one hundred scientists employed full-time improving inks and nozzles for their BubbleJets.) Also, the inkjet printer's output does better on more expensive, water-resistant paper, or on the much more expensive coated paper made for the purpose.

Laser printers produce crisper results with higher true resolutions, currently up to true 1200 dots per inch (dpi), as opposed to software-interpolated dpi. Laser printers also print faster than inkjets, typically producing four to twelve pages per minute (ppm), compared with a color inkjet's one to three minutes per page. And you'll find a much wider selection of laser printer makes and models from which to choose, another advantage.

Laser printers also cost less to run because their consumable supplies tend to be less expensive. This difference is shrinking fast for inkjet monochrome printing, but even so you'll probably more than make up the dif-

SOME BUYER'S TIPS

THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS when picking a printer are money, volume, and output. How much can you spend, how many copies of an original will be needed, and what quality of printed output do you need? After that, you should consider questions like where you will put it, extra features needed, and the like.

When you count costs, don't forget to include cost of consumables as well as the initial cost of the printer. This is easy to overlook, but the cost of ink and toner cartridges, paper, and power consumption varies from one printer to the next.

A printer's output can vary even more. Make sure the printer's rated dpi, ppm, colors, fonts, form sizes, and paper handling all meet your needs. Don't forget to consider both speed and paper path, too. If you'll just be printing standard pieces of letter stock for distribution in an office, or large spreadsheet outputs and database reports, you may want to pass up extremely high resolution in favor of fast production of 12ppm or so. But if you will print a wide variety of paper types, and perhaps even envelopes or 80lb. cover stock, you'll need a machine that provides at least an optional straight-through paper path.

A related question has to do with a printer's job-handling and other special features. What are its paper tray capacity, memory, PCL and/or PostScript versions, and complex document capabilities? Some printers can print duplex (both sides of the paper) and collate the output, while others can't. Especially with laser printers, look for one that is Energy Star compliant, meaning it goes into power-down standby mode when the printer has not been used for awhile.

How much memory do you need? Half a meg was fairly standard at one time, but it is not enough for any but the most casual use. Some printers use memory compression to stretch what they have, while others like HP units let you add memory cards.

You'll need extra memory, at least 2MB and probably 4MB or more, if you expect to run

PostScript, since the printer itself does much of the processing in such systems.

Tip: Be sure to find out how much memory is required to print a full graphics page at the highest resolution; the base price of printers often does not reflect the cost of the memory that will have to be added in order to print complex documents at the highest-rated resolution.

Look also at the printing options. What size paper can it accept? All printers can handle legal and letter size paper, but some users also need to print on undersized forms, heavier stock, or even tabloid-sized sheets. This alone can take an otherwise perfect printer out of the game. Also, if you sometimes need to go right to the edge of the paper (for example, with graphics output) you may need to invest in a paper cutter as well as a printer, and print on oversized paper. So do look at the margins. Most printers have 1/2" or so of blank paper around the edges, but some have as little as 1/4". Avoid printers that impose a 1" margin on the output.

Tip: If your particular use requires bleeds (ink to the edge of the page) you will need to consider this and go to a larger-format printer.

Most printers have control panels on the top front, but some are more convenient to use than others. Look for a control panel that is clear, not cryptic. The best ones have LCD readouts that are very clear about what is happening. Some models come with software that also gives complete on-screen control, so you don't have to get up and walk over to the printer to see what's going on or to change settings.

A printer's physical size can make a big difference. If you have limited space, you might trade output speed for a smaller unit that fits easily into a corner somewhere. A less obvious space-related question is, how do you clear paper jams? They're not as common

as they once were, but they still happen. Depending on where you will put the printer, you might bypass one that opens, say, by swiveling the top up and back, in favor of one with a front or side panel that swings out. Paper tray locations also can make a big difference in a small space.

As for what type of printer to get, we've described the most important considerations elsewhere in this article. One extra point: Think carefully before investing in a multifunction printer. They're great gadgets, but if you don't need one, for now at least you may be better off sticking with individual components. Whether you do need one depends at least partly on what functions you have left to fill. If you only need a printer, spend less for better results by just buying a printer.

On the other hand, if you also need a light-duty copier, and would love to have a scanner available for occasional use but lack the budget for it, a multifunction printer may be just the thing. Especially in a SOHO situation, integrating multiple functions in a single box on one desktop can have enormous appeal.

Here are some budget-oriented printer solutions:

Low budget: \$150-\$350

- dot matrix
- monochrome inkjet

Medium budget: \$350-\$900

- color inkjet
- personal laser

Higher budget: \$900-\$2500+

- color inkjet
- dye sublimation
- thermal wax
- PostScript laser

Here are possibilities listed by type of output:

Text documents: PostScript laser, PCL laser, inkjet

Text/graphics documents: PostScript laser, PCL laser, inkjet

Color documents: color inkjet (laser for high volume)

Forms: dot matrix

Presentations: thermal wax, color inkjet

Photographs: dye sublimation

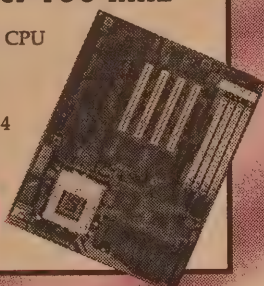
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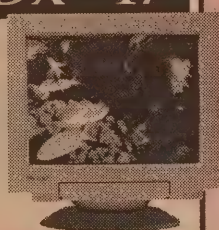
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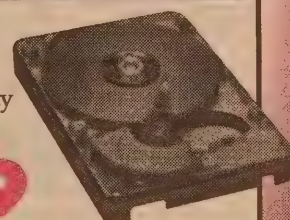
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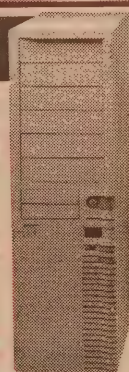
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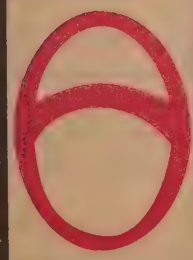
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Selecting A Printer *continued...*

ference in initial cost over the life of the machine if you buy a laser printer.

For that matter, even the initial cost differences are shrinking. Remember the headlines when Canon and HP came out with laser printers under \$1000? Panasonic is shipping a "personal" laser printer, the 6100, carrying a \$399 list price and a street price of \$325-\$350. That price is directly competitive with inkjet printers. The machine produces true 300dpi resolution with dot interpolation improving it to what the firm calls 600dpi-class performance. Another new Panasonic laser printer, the 6500, has true 600dpi resolution with 1200dpi equivalent performance. It lists for \$595 and sells for around \$495, just below the magic \$500 mark that brings it into the mass market. The just-released HP 5L personal laser printer, which lists for \$499 and has a street price of about \$440, is also a good choice in the under-\$500 laser printer market.

Tip: Personal laser printers are, of course, also offered by HP, Epson, Brother, Lexmark, and others, but the Panasonic 6100 has one of the lowest street prices in its class for now. Panasonic has been backing away from higher-end laser printers and is concentrating its efforts on producing lower-cost personal laser printers and printer engines.

These two low-cost Panasonic personal laser printers are impressive little machines, but not perfect. They couldn't be, not at those prices. Half of good engineering is the ability to strike acceptable trade-offs between dead-on five-star quality and small, cumulative savings in the cost of making something. To produce laser printer performance with street prices under \$500, the Panasonic printers require Windows to run, are slow compared with more expensive laser printers, use quite a bit of the host system's RAM, and consume a lot of the computer's processing power.

In the real world, those under-\$500 street prices make such trade-offs fairly easy to live with. For higher volume print jobs a savvy personal computer user can even use one of these personal laser printers to do their own good quality "camera ready" black-and-white plates and color separations, then turn the job over to a commercial print shop.

According to Panasonic spokesperson Nancy Garry, the firm's low-cost 6100 and 6500 models are aimed straight at the SOHO market. Their output speed of 6ppm outperforms an inkjet printer, even though 6ppm is decidedly middle-of-the-pack when compared with other laser printers. Personal laser output, while better than inkjet printing, isn't quite as crisp, and the blacks aren't as dense or smoothly applied, as the higher-end laser printers.

Laser printing technology is still developing fast. Before too long you can expect to see moderately priced mid-range models with greater than 1200dpi resolution that are faster than 16ppm, as well as more improvements in entry-level personal laser printers. These anticipated advances, combined with typically good performance and low operating cost, will probably keep printers in the marketplace for a long time yet.

Color Laser Printing

Color laser printers on the market include the HP Color LaserJet and Apple's Color LaserWriter, plus a few others. However, they all cost more than \$3000, which limits their appeal pretty much to the higher end of the color printing market. Even if a SOHO user has the budget for one of these beasts, they are large, noisy, and have an unseemly appetite for electricity compared to a color inkjet printer.

The HP Color LaserJet weighs too much to ship by UPS (102.5lbs.) and it takes two very strong backs just to lift it safely onto what had better be a sturdy desktop. This is not what every office manager hopes for in a printer. Released several months after HP's, Apple's Color LaserWriter is slightly heavier (110lbs.). The Apple printer is, however, \$900 less expensive, has over twice as many resident fonts, and offers twice the resolution, has more base memory, and has a faster processor.

It also prints faster than the HP Color LaserJet. The Apple Color LaserWriter prints 3ppm in color and 12ppm in monochrome, compared to the HP Color LaserJet's 2ppm in color and 10ppm in monochrome.

Actually, in spite of their bulk and cost we've found both of these printers to be quite good. There are also numerous other color printers in the high-end color printing market segment, using a variety of technologies including phase-change, solid ink, thermal wax-transfer, dye-sublimation, and a combination of thermal wax-transfer and dye-sublimation. But in general these units are far beyond the budget of most home and business users. They tend to be found in graphic arts houses and services bureaus, not in individual home and small businesses. They are, however, quite useful for checking the color pages of high-volume print jobs prior to going to film, an instance where errors can get very expensive.

According to desktop publishing expert James Peugh of the Web-based *Citivu Magazine*, (<http://www.citivu.com>), most midrange home and SOHO users are still probably better off with two printers: a color inkjet for jobs that need visual impact; a monochrome laser for standard moderate-volume printing tasks and occasional output for plate making. "Unless your business is printing or you have lots of work, service bureaus are hard to beat for occasional high-quality imaging for volume printing. They have the needed quality and expertise, and jobbing work out to them saves you from having to make a much bigger hardware investment," says Peugh. We agree.

Multifunction Printers

All-in-one devices are emerging as a hot new item, especially in the much sought-after SOHO market. For the most part, the technology has been around for a couple of years, but not at a performance/price point to make it attractive to the mass market. For that, they needed a critical mass of functions and a break in the magic \$1000 price barrier, and now they've done it. As a result, they're selling in more volume, which brings the price down even further; if that cycle continues, soon they'll be standard equipment in a lot of homes and small offices.

In practice, what these machines do is combine the functions of various paper-handling devices into a single box. The integrated functions include some combination of printer, fax, scanner, copier, and sometimes even a modem.

These capabilities can have considerable appeal for home and SOHO users not yet equipped with these functions. One advantage is this single, integrated device will only take up one place in what is often a limited amount of available space. Another advantage is every "device" (function) will be covered by a single warranty, making warranty repairs simpler if something goes wrong.

On the downside, forcing all these functions into a single box means that if anything breaks, the whole unit is out of service until it comes back

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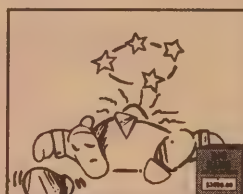
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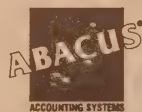


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Selecting A Printer *continued...*

from the shop. Multifunction printers also tend to suffer from some compromises, such as the quality of printing and scanning. Simultaneous functions are supported at a somewhat basic level, but when you're printing a long job you can't use the waiting time to copy other papers. The copier is also the printer, so they're both in use. Also, you can't upgrade just one function at a time, a limitation that can take a bite out of your wallet: You can't get any trade-in credit for existing equipment unless you're willing to trade in the whole shebang.

As the technology matures, the engineering trade-offs are disappearing. For example, you no longer have to assume a multifunction box can only produce 200dpi output, or scan at 200dpi. Higher resolutions such as 300 x 300 are frequently supported in the latest generation of these machines.

The Bottom Line: Color Inkjets Are Taking The Lead

In spite of the advantages of laser printers, many personal computer users are choosing color inkjet printers. The sales figures prove it. The consensus seems to be that color's superior impact far outweighs the trade-offs of lower resolution, occasional smudging, higher consumable costs, slower printing, and somewhat greater mechanical complexity.

As a result, color inkjets frequently appear on hardware "best seller" lists. For example, in September the Canon 4000 BubbleJet was the best-selling printer, bar none, at Ingram Micro, the nation's largest computer distributor. And the Canon 4000/4100 BubbleJets and the HP 660C/660Cse Color DeskJet printers move like wildfire at computer superstores including CompUSA, Computer City, and Fry's.

No doubt the growing demand for color inkjets follows partly from their affordable base price. Both HP and Canon have solid models with street prices as low as \$350. That has made them a staple on the shelves of PC retailers and mail order ads, as well as at computer superstores.

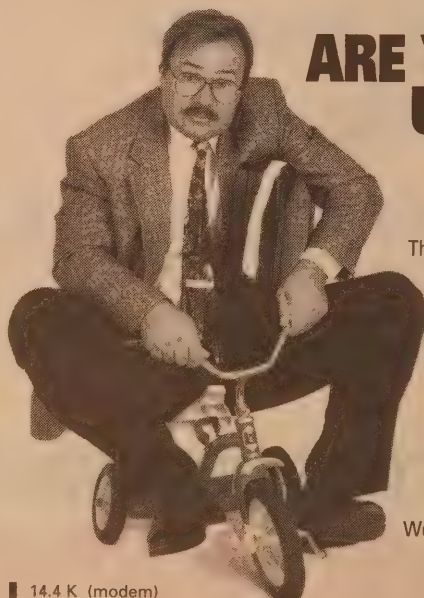
Tip: The HP 660Cse, which supersedes the 660C, is being bundled with Brotherbund's Print Shop Deluxe CD. The Canon 4100, which supersedes the 4000, is being bundled with the Canon Creative CD containing Hallmark Connections Everyday Greetings card application, Crayola Art coloring and drawing program, Pattern Maker, Stationery Store, Sticker and Label Store, and assorted fonts and clip art. Both of these printers support "dual" ink cartridges, which means changing from color to black printing doesn't require switching cartridges and blacks will always be "true" instead of "mixed" blacks. The HP 660Cse printer driver software supports double-sided printing by prompting the user to flip the paper. The Canon 4100 comes with a sample pack of transfer paper for making custom T-shirts.

Industry analysts predict the \$1 billion inkjet printer market will grow to \$4 billion by 1998. By all indications, color inkjet printers are becoming the dominant printer of today for low- and moderate-volume printing. By the end of this year, analysts feel inkjet printers should account for 70% of all printer sales; more than 90% of inkjet printers will be color. Laser printers are then expected to have about a 22% market share, and dot matrix and special printers should have the remaining 8% of the market.

The High Cost Of Consumables

To some extent, King Gillette's philosophy of giving away the razor to sell the blades may account for the cost of inkjet printer consumables. While

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Selecting A Printer *continued...*

The cost-per-page for monochrome laser printing is about \$.05, for color inkjet printing on plain paper the cost-per-page jumps to around \$.25 for a typical color document with 20% coverage. Coated or other special paper further adds to the cost. Bear in mind that, in spite of manufacturer claims to the contrary, the best quality color inkjet output often does require special inkjet "coated" paper that costs considerably more than standard 20lb. bond.

Paper costs alone can make a big difference. Office Depot, Staples, and Price Club offer 20lb. bond paper suitable for laser printers and basic (but not presentation) inkjet printing for about \$35 a case. A case holds ten reams of five hundred sheets each, making the cost \$3.50 per ream. Water-resistant inkjet paper goes for about \$15 for a package of two hundred sheets. Coated inkjet paper costs about \$25 for a package of two hundred sheets. It's hard to find by the ream and almost impossible to find by the case, at the retail level at least. It may cost more, but using special paper makes a visible quality difference especially on a page with photographs or other high-resolution images.

Michael Weissman, vice president of printer marketing for Canon Computer Systems, Inc., explains that recent improvements in inks and nozzle designs are making special inkjet paper unnecessary. Sample printing tests we made appear to bear this out. The newer inkjet printer designs have faster-drying, smudge-resistant inks, he says, and adds that bubblejet printers (Canon's term for inkjet technology) are getting quieter as well. Both factors should make these printers increasingly attractive to commercial and office users.

Hewlett-Packard and Canon are fierce competitors in the inkjet printer market. HP's market share has declined from greater than 90% three years ago to about 50% today. In the three years since Canon started selling inkjet printers for personal computers their market share has grown from modest 3% to over 30%.

Tip: The Canon 4100 comes with a three-year instant replacement warranty and toll-free technical support. The HP 660Cse comes with a one-year warranty and toll-call technical support. The HP 660Cse ink cartridges cost \$5-\$10 more but include a new print head. The HP 660Cse's sturdy paper input and output trays are at the front of the printer, bending the paper more but taking slightly less space on the desktop. The Canon 4100 has a front output tray and rear/vertical input tray, offering a better paper path but taking slightly more space during printing. Unlike the HP 660Cse, however, the Canon 4100 input and output paper trays can be folded up when the printer isn't in use.

Resolving The Image

To a large extent, the resolution you get with an inkjet printer depends on how much you pay. A typical inkjet uses sixty-four nozzles for black ink and from forty-eight to seventy-two for color. The resulting inkjet resolutions include 300 x 300, 300 x 600, 600 x 600, and (at the higher end) 720 x 240.

It was long the rule that less costly models offered better monochrome than color resolutions, but that is changing. With newer, more advanced inkjet printers, even moderate-cost models may offer the same high resolutions for both monochrome and color printing. For example, the Canon bubbleJet 610, at a street price of about \$560, supports 720 x 720dpi in both monochrome and color.

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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Selecting A Printer *continued...*

Some Good Examples

THERE ARE MANY GOOD PRINTERS ON THE MARKET (AND A FEW DOGS, TOO).

Picking one can be like picking the right PC: So many variables come into play that it's impossible to cover everything in one article. Magazines devote whole editions to printers without beginning to exhaust the field. And something as simple as a store sale near your office can change the entire picture when it comes time to pull out your credit cards.

Here are some very good products in the major categories we've covered, in various price ranges:

Color Laser Printers

Hewlett-Packard Color LaserJet

Suggested price: \$7295
Warranty: one year on-site
Colors: color and monochrome
Print speed: 2ppm
Resolution: 300dpi
Printer emulation: HP LaserJet (enhanced PCL 5), HPGL
Energy Star compliant: yes
Interfaces supported: parallel
Compatible with: IBM PC, Apple Macintosh
Processor chip: AMD29030
Clock rate: 20MHz
Base RAM: 8MB
Maximum RAM: 72MB
Input tray capacity: 250 sheets
Output tray capacity: 100 sheets
Paper size(s): letter, legal, ledger, executive, A3, transparencies
Duty cycle: 15,000 pages per month
Fonts included: 45 resident
Automatic interface switching: yes
Simultaneous active ports: yes

Additional functions: monochrome printing at 10ppm
Height: 14.8"
Width: 24.4"
Depth: 14.3"
Weight: 102.5lbs.

Apple Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS

Suggested price: \$6400
Colors: color and monochrome
Print speed: 3ppm
Resolution: 600dpi
Printer emulation: PostScript Level 2
Interfaces supported: parallel; AppleTalk, SCSI-2, Ethernet
Compatible with: Apple Macintosh, IBM PC, UNIX workstation(s)
Processor chip: AMD29030
Clock rate: 30MHz
Base RAM: 12MB
Maximum RAM: 40MB
Input tray capacity: 350 sheets
Paper size(s): letter, legal, A4, B5, envelopes, transparencies
Print engine life: 150,000 (color), 300,000 (monochrome) pages
Fonts included: 104 resident
Automatic interface switching: yes

Simultaneous active ports: yes
Additional functions: monochrome printing at 12ppm, color transparency printing at 1ppm
Height: 18"
Width: 21"
Depth: 23"
Weight: 110lbs.

Monochrome Laser Printers

Lexmark Optra Lxi

Suggested price: \$3199
Warranty: one year on-site
Colors: color and monochrome
Print speed: 16ppm
Resolution: 1200dpi
Printer emulation: PostScript Level 2, HP LaserJet (enhanced PCL 5)
Automatic emulation switching: yes
Energy Star compliant: yes
Interfaces supported: serial, parallel, Ethernet
Compatible with: IBM PC
Processor chip: AMD29030
Clock rate: 25MHz
Base RAM: 8MB
Maximum RAM: 64MB
Input tray capacity:

1000 sheets
Output tray capacity: 500 sheets
Paper size(s): letter, legal, A4, envelopes, transparencies, card stock
Duty cycle: 75,000 pages per month
Toner cartridge life: 7000 pages
Number of fonts included: 87 resident
Automatic interface switching: yes
Simultaneous active ports: yes
Noise level: 48dba
Max. form width: 9"
Additional functions: 1200dpi resolution at 8ppm
Height: 22.3"
Width: 16.1"
Depth: 21.1"
Weight: 65lbs.

HP LaserJet 4 Plus and 4M Plus

Warranty: one year
Colors: color and monochrome
Print speed: 12ppm
Resolution: 600dpi
Printer emulation: HP LaserJet 4 (enhanced PCL 5), PostScript Level 2 (for "M")
Automatic emulation switching: yes for "M"
Energy Star compliant: yes
Interfaces supported: serial, parallel, AppleTalk, Ethernet
Compatible with: IBM PC, Apple Macintosh
Processor chip: i960
Clock rate: 25MHz
RAM included in base model: 6MB
Maximum RAM: 38MB
Input tray capacity:

100 sheets
Output tray capacity: 250 sheets
Paper size(s): letter, legal, executive, A4, envelopes, transparencies, labels
Duty cycle: 20,000 pages per month
Fonts included: 80 resident
Automatic interface switching: yes
Simultaneous active ports: yes
Noise level: 55dba
Max. form width: 11"
Height: 11.7"
Width: 16.6"
Depth: 15.9"
Weight: 37lbs.

Panasonic KX-P6100

Suggested price: \$499
Warranty: one year
Colors: monochrome printer
Print speed: 6ppm
Resolution: 600dpi
Energy Star compliant: yes
Interfaces supported: parallel
Compatible with: IBM PC, Apple Macintosh
Input tray capacity: 100 sheets
Output tray capacity: 50 sheets
Paper size(s): letter, legal, A4, envelopes
Toner cartridge life: 1000 pages
Double-sided printing: yes
Noise level: 45dba
Form width: 9"
Height: 11.3"
Width: 5.2"
Depth: 14.9"
Weight: 14.4lbs.

included: one year
Colors: monochrome printer
Print speed: 6ppm
Resolution: 600dpi
Printer emulation: HP LaserJet IIP (PCL 4)
Automatic emulation switching: yes
Energy Star compliant: yes
Interfaces supported: parallel
Compatible with: IBM PC

Base RAM: 512K
Maximum RAM: 4.5MB
Input tray capacity: 100 sheets
Output tray capacity: 50 sheets
Paper size(s): letter, legal, executive, A4, envelopes, transparencies, labels
Print engine life: 15,000 pages
Toner cartridge life: 2000 pages
Fonts included: 14 resident
Double-sided printing: yes
Buffer: 512K
Height: 11.3"
Width: 5.2"
Depth: 14.9"
Weight: 14.4lbs.

Inkjet Printers

Canon BJC-4100

Suggested price: \$399
Warranty: two years
Resolution: 720 x 360dpi
Print speed: 0.8ppm
Colors: color and monochrome
Compatibility: IBM PC
Emulations: IBM Proprinter X24E, Epson

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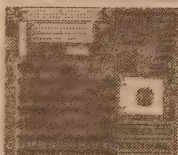


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Selecting A Printer *continued...*

LQ-2550

Interfaces: parallel
Input tray capacity: 100 sheets
Paper size(s): letter, legal, A4, envelopes, transparencies, labels, card stock, high gloss and back print film, T-shirt transfers, fabric sheet

Resident fonts: 307
Noise level: 47dba
Buffer: 34.5K
Additional functions: includes Canon Creative CD-ROM software collection

Height: 7.8"

Width: 14.4"

Depth: 8.8"

Weight: 7.1lbs.

Canon BJC-610

Suggested price: \$599
Warranty: two years
Resolution: 720 x 720dpi

Print speed: 0.7ppm
Colors: color and monochrome

Compatibility: IBM PC
Emulations: IBM Proprinter X24E, Epson LQ-2550, Windows Printing System

Interfaces: parallel
Input tray capacity: 100 sheets

Paper size(s): letter, legal, A4, envelopes, transparencies, labels, card stock, high gloss and back print film, T-shirt transfers, fabric sheet

Resident fonts: 307
Noise level: 45dba
Buffer: 60K

Additional functions: includes Canon Creative CD-ROM software collection

Height: 7.2"

Width: 16.1"

Depth: 10"

Weight: 9.9lbs.

Hewlett-Packard DeskJet 660C

Suggested price: \$599
Warranty: three years
Resolution: 600 x 300dpi color and RET, 600 x 600dpi monochrome

Colors: color and monochrome

Compatibility: IBM PC

Print speed: 1.5ppm

color, 4ppm monochrome

Emulation: HP

LaserJet (PCL 3)

Interfaces: serial, parallel, AppleTalk

Energy Star compliant: yes

Processor chip:

68000

Clock rate: 16MHz

Base RAM: 512K

Input tray capacity:

100 sheets

Paper size(s): letter, legal, executive, envelopes, transparencies, labels, card stock

Fonts included: 50 resident

Form width: 9"

Additional functions: monochrome printing at 4ppm, 600dpi resolution

Options: 199 "Printer Pal" adds fax capability

Height: 7.9"

Width: 17.2"

Depth: 16"

Weight: 11.6lbs.

Epson Stylus Color Pro

Suggested price: \$649
Warranty: two years

Resolution: 720 x 720dpi

Colors: color and

monochrome

Print speed: 1ppm

Compatible: IBM PC

and Apple Macintosh

Emulations: Epson

ESC/P 2

Energy Star compliant: yes

Interfaces supported: serial, parallel, AppleTalk

Input tray capacity:

100 sheets

Output tray capacity:

30 sheets

Paper size(s): letter, legal, A4, B5, envelopes, transparencies

Print engine life:

75,000 pages

Number of fonts

included: 9 resident

Automatic interface

switching: yes

Simultaneous active

ports: yes

Noise level: 45dba

Buffer: 56K

Max. form width: 9"

Height: 7.8"

Width: 17"

Depth: 9.8"

Weight: 11lbs.

Hewlett-Packard DeskJet 656C

Suggested price: \$658

Warranty: one year

Colors: color and

monochrome

Print speed: 2ppm

color, 7ppm monochrome

Resolution: 300dpi

color plus RET, 600dpi

black

Printer emulation: HP

LaserJet (PCL 3), Apple

QuickDraw

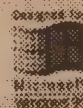
Energy Star compliant: yes

Interfaces supported:

serial, parallel, AppleTalk

Compatible with: IBM

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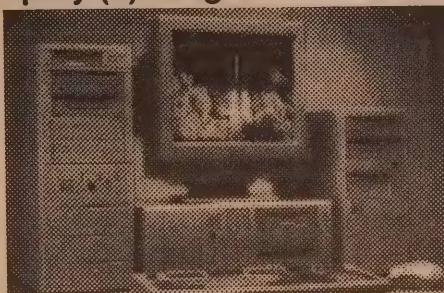
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Selecting A Printer *continued...*

PC, Apple Macintosh
Base RAM: 1MB
Input tray capacity:
150 sheets
Output tray capacity:
50 sheets
Paper size(s): letter,
legal, executive, A4,
envelopes, transparen-
cies, labels, card stock
Duty cycle: 1000
(monochrome), 160
(color) pages per month
Print engine life:
60,000 pages
Noise level: 52dba
Additional functions:
monochrome printing at
7ppm, 600dpi color
printing at 2ppm
Height: 8.9"
Width: 17.5"
Depth: 15.6"
Weight: 14.3lbs.

200 sheets
Output tray capacity:
100 sheets
Paper size(s): letter,
legal, executive, A4, A5,
envelopes, transparen-
cies, labels
Toner cartridge life:
3000 pages
Fonts included: 45 res-
ident
Optional fonts provid-
ed: diskette
Automatic interface
switching: yes
Noise level: 38dba
Max. form width: 9"
Additional functions:
400dpi scanner, 203 x
392dpi copier, 9600 bps
fax/modem, auto-detect-
tion of fax
Height: 11.7"
Width: 17.6"
Depth: 17.8"
Weight: 24lbs.

Toner cartridge life:
200 (color), 1000
(monochrome) pages
Fonts included: 14
resident
Additional functions:
monochrome printing at
600 x 300dpi, 14.4K
bps CCITT Group 3
fax/modem, 2ppm
300dpi copier, 6ppm
300dpi grayscale
TWAIN scanner
Height: 12"
Width: 17.3"
Depth: 15.4"
Weight: 17lbs.

Canon MultiPASS 1000 Document Processing System

Suggested price:
\$800
Colors: monochrome
Print speed: 76.7cps
Resolution: 360dpi
Printer emulation:
IBM Proprinter X24E,
Epson LQ510, Canon
BJ200/10e
Interfaces supported:
serial, parallel
Compatible with: IBM
PC
Input tray capacity:
200 sheets
Paper size(s): letter,
legal
Toner cartridge life:
1400 pages
Additional functions:
Graphics printing at
1.8ppm, 9600 bps
modem, plain paper and
PC fax, 200dpi scanner,
99-page laser-quality
copier, full-featured on-
hook dialing telephone
Height: 7"
Width: 17"
Depth: 13"
Weight: 15lbs.

Multifunction Printers

Brother Multifunction Center 4500 ML

Suggested price:
\$2000
Warranty: one year
Colors: color and
monochrome
Print speed: 6ppm
Resolution: 300dpi
Printer emulation:
IBM Proprinter XL, HP
LaserJet (PCL 4), Epson
FX 850
Automatic emulation
switching: yes
Upgradable PDL: yes
Energy Star compli-
ant: yes
Interfaces supported:
serial, parallel
Compatible with: IBM
PC
Base RAM: 512K
Maximum RAM: 2MB
Input tray capacity:

Lexmark Medley 4sx
Suggested price: \$950
Warranty: one year
Colors: color and
monochrome
Print speed: 0.4ppm
color, 3ppm black
Resolution: 300 x
300dpi color with RET,
600 x 300 monochrome
with RET
Printer emulation: HP
DeskJet 500, 500C (PCL
3)
Energy Star compliant:
yes
Interfaces supported:
parallel
Base RAM: 1MB
Maximum RAM: 4MB
Input tray capacity:
150 sheets
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Printer emulation:

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Buffer: 4K

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Depth: 12.4"

Weight: 10.6lbs.

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Print speed: 250cps

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Compatible with: IBM

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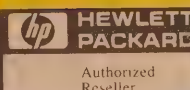
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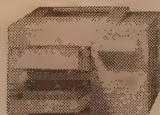
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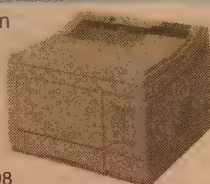
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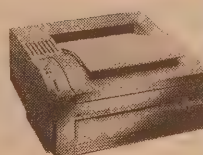
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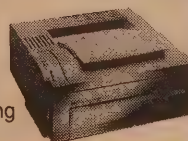
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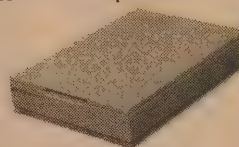
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Dangerous Games continued from page 24

a primarily textual or numeric task to one which involves the other brain centers. The smoking part of the cerebrum can cool and reconstitute itself. Neglected sorts of intelligence get a needed boost.

Remember these excuses as you while away your work time with these games. You need a bit of time away from your tasks, or you will ruin them, and they will ruin you.

Microsoft's Entertainment Pack is a one-disk collection of games that have stood the test of time. Many of them were released by other companies and had an independent life before retiring to Microsoft's collection. But these are not somebody's leftovers. They are classics one and all.

They take up next to no space on your hard disk. The entire directory, including supporting files, is only a bit over 2MB. For that space you get thirteen games.

Those who love crosswords and other static-pattern puzzles, Microsoft has included Scott Ferguson's TetraVex. You are presented with a playing board of nine empty spaces in a square. You also have nine tiles. Each tile has a number on each of its four sides. Your task is to fit them together so that the "4" on one tile is next to the "4" on its neighbor. The puzzle forces you to look for patterns and to eliminate blind alleys in your mind before placing the tiles. You can work with boards from two-by-two spaces up to a mind-numbing six-by-six. If you prefer, TetraVex will present you with letters rather than numbers to match—or even Greek letters. I found TetraVex almost impossible to stop playing.

Another pattern game is Taipei. Your screen fills up with a stack of tiles, each marked with a symbol or a Chinese character. I understand these are the tiles used in Mah Jongg, a game which is played for blood in our neighborhood; but this is a much simpler sport. You need only find two matching tiles exposed to remove both of them. Your object is to remove all the tiles in the stack.

Five of the thirteen entertainments are card games. Blackjack is one of them, an opportunity to sharpen your skills before heading up to Reno. The other four are solitary vices. The simplest is Golf, perfect company for a rainy day when you have not a wit in your head. The object is to exhaust piles of cards by moving them to the discard stack, with each card being one higher or one lower than the preceding.

**ALL SOLITAIRE GAMES
LEAD THE MIND TO
STRATEGIC THINKING.
IN ORDER TO SOLVE A
SOLITAIRE DEAL, YOU
MUST THINK BEYOND
THE NEXT MOVE AND
THE ONE AFTER THAT,
TO SEE PATTERNS OR
CASCADES OF
SOLUTION.**

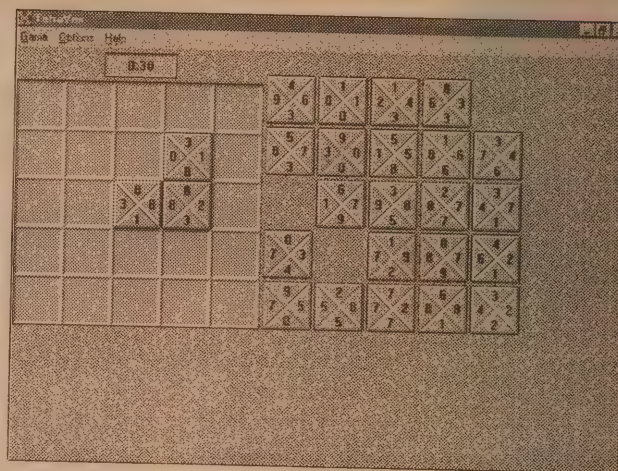
At the other extreme is FreeCell, which you may have already gotten when you bought Windows 95. A single game can occupy you for many decades, as you try to verify that every game is (as the instructions allege) winnable. The game is structured much like the Tower of Hanoi puzzle, so to win the game may take hundreds or thousands of moves. Got a spare century?

My favorite of the card games is Tut's Tomb, so called because cards are presented to you in a pyramid, and your object is to remove the cards from the pyramid's bottom without getting stuck. All solitaire games lead the mind to strategic thinking. In order to solve a solitaire deal, you must think beyond the next move and the one after that, to see patterns or cascades of solution. "Ah, if I move this card, then that comes free, and then this over here, and that...." Solitaire games also teach you when to throw in the towel. There are some games you just cannot win: better a new deal than more blind thrashing.

Although there is often a clock running, the solitaire card game is essentially timeless. It is a pattern to be dissolved away by perceiving its structure and actualizing the insight.

Other games in the Entertainment pack are adrenalin-pumpers. You try to deal with a situation that changes as you work with it. Delay means disaster.

The mildest is certainly SkiFree. You operate a skier with your mouse, avoiding trees, children, rocks, and dogs crossing the trail while you attempt to set new speed records and make all the slalom turns. It's a good game to remind you of the bracing air and shining slush of the



TetraVex

Sierras. To remind you of the price of a lift ticket, there is a monster that will rush from behind a tree and eat you up.

My favorite of the moving games is an old Lucas Game release, Pipe Dream. It resembles in every way the daily running of a business. As you start up, you have an "uncapped pipe." It is a source for all the stuff you have to deal with during the day. Pretty soon green goo begins to run out of the source. This is surely what Proclus (the last of the great pagan Platonists) had in mind when he spoke of the "flowing Being." You must lay pipe to route the green stuff away. You must lay it faster than the green stuff can flow in. Your pipes come in preshaped (and usually wrongly-shaped) pieces, so you must often toss pieces of pipe into a route you have not yet had time to design, while desperately rushing to get the one pipe-shape which will avert this minute's disaster.

Pipe Dream makes a fine metaphorical exercise for daily business life. It hones the wit, that practical make-do cunning without which every business plan is—well, a pipe dream.

There are two real-life adventure games, one featuring a mouse and one featuring a child named Chip. I have nothing against them, they just failed to capture me.

Perhaps the most simply beautiful of all the entertainments is Jezzball. Spinning balls bounce around a chamber. Your task is to confine them by building walls. As they become more confined, they move faster; and your task becomes that much harder. It is a peculiarly simple game, and you find yourself continually

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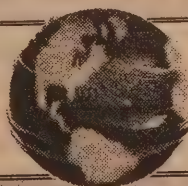
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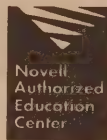
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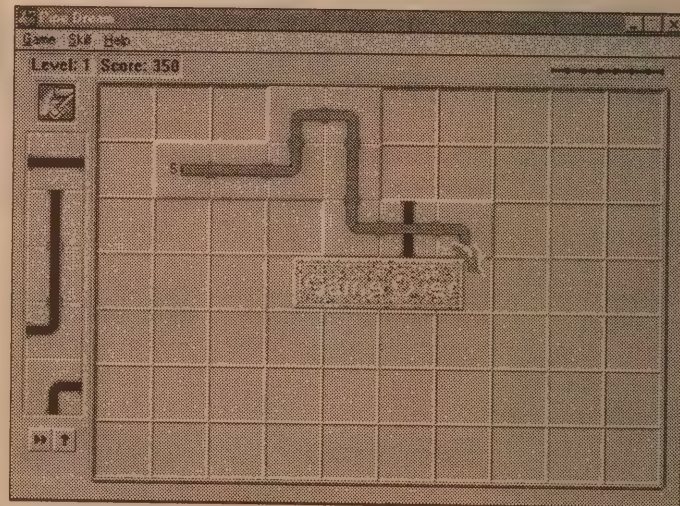
Dangerous Games *continued...*

edging toward perfection. Quite lovely, this work by Dima Pavlovsky.

I fell quickly into that remnant of Soviet Imperialism, Tetris. Yes, just when you thought you were safe from Elorg and its dreaded programmers, Alexei Pazhitnov and Vadim Gerasimov, Microsoft brings back their brainchild in a Windows 3.1 and 95 compatible format. Again you can lose whole hours to the falling blocks, mindlessly building towers whose whole purpose is to have the lower floors compact and vanish. If you have not ever played Tetris, remember: Like Plato's cave, it is fascinating and traps the soul.

Bless you, Mr. Bill, for preserving and remarketing these charming and addictive games. ■

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Pipe Dream

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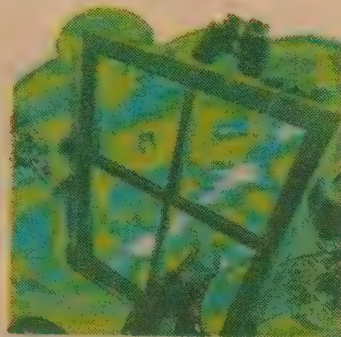
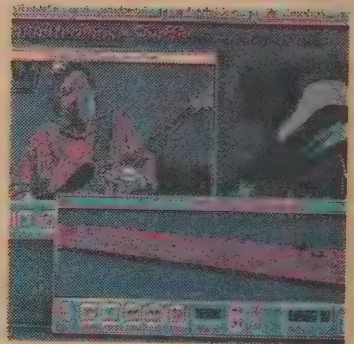
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1995 Holiday Product Reviews



Product Updates

20/20 Software introduced **PC-Install v4**, the latest version of its installation software for DOS and Windows 3.x, and a **32-bit version for Windows 95 and NT**. 20/20 Software, Inc., 8196 SW Hall Blvd., Suite 200, Beaverton, OR 97008. 1-800-735-2020.

ACI shipped its new **4th Dimension 3.5** relational database for both Windows and Macintosh. The new version allows end-users and developers to enjoy seamless applications integration across Mac and Windows platforms. Suggested price is \$895. ACI US, Inc., 20883 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014. (408)252-4444.

Agfa released **AgfaType Collection CD-ROM v6** for the Macintosh, which contains over thirty-six hundred PostScript Type 1 typefaces. Agfa Division, Bayer Corp., Typographic Systems Division, 90 Industrial Way, MS 90-2-4C, Wilmington, MA 01887-1069. 1-800-424-TYPE.

Akimbo Systems released **FullWrite 2**, the new version of its intuitive word processor for the Macintosh. List price is \$295, upgrades are \$99, competitive upgrades from any other Mac word processor are \$120. Akimbo Systems, 11 Rose St., Somerville, MA 02143. 1-800-988-9849.

Ares Software shipped **FontMinder 3.0**. The new version of its font management utility for Windows 95 and 3.1 includes a new tabbed interface and other improvements. The suggested retail price is \$79.95; current users can upgrade for \$24.95. Ares Software Corp., 565 Pilgrim Dr., Suite A, Foster City, CA 94404. (415)578-9090.

Elektroson released its new 32-bit CD-R software, **GEAR 3.2 for Windows 95 and Windows NT**. Suggested pricing is \$100 for the standard version and \$499 for the Multimedia/Multiformat version. Elektroson USA, 10 Presidential Blvd., Suite 125, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004. (610)617-0850.

Iprax Corp. announced **Release 3.1 of CourseWorks**, its multimedia training software that lets managers rapidly and easily convert conventional training materials into interactive training courses. It is priced at \$695. Iprax Corp., One Forbes Rd., Lexington, MA 02173. 1-800-464-7729.

Jandel Scientific Software has shipped **SigmaScan v2.0** (formerly SigmaScan/Image) and **SigmaScan Pro v2.0** (formerly Mocha) for Windows. These new Windows 95-compatible versions of its imaging software contain more features that make it easy and affordable to complete image

measurement and analysis on a PC. SigmaScan is \$495, SigmaScan Pro is \$995. Jandel Scientific Software, 2591 Kerner Blvd., San Rafael, CA 94901. 1-800-452-6335, (415)453-6700.

Ligature Software announced a **competitive upgrade program** for users of OCR software. Users of any OCR product can upgrade to Ligature's CharacterEyes Pro for Windows for only \$149 with proof of purchase of their original software. Ligature Inc., 25 Burlington Mall Rd., Suite 300, Burlington, MA 01803. (617)238-6734.

MicroHelp shipped **UnInstaller 3 for Networks**, extending new application management functions to LAN managers. The suggested retail price is \$299 for a server license. MicroHelp, Inc., 4211 J.V.L. Industrial Park Dr. NE, Marietta, GA 30066. 1-800-777-3322.

Niles & Associates has released **EndNote Plus 2.0.1**, a new version of its bibliographic software that can scan Microsoft Word 7.0 documents to generate formatted bibliographies. Suggested retail price is \$299. Niles & Associates, Inc., 800 Jones St., Berkeley, CA 94710. (510)559-8592.

Novell released **WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows SGML Edition**, an all-in-one SGML authoring solution integrated with its popular word processor. Suggested price is \$595. Novell, Inc., 122 East 1700 South, Provo, UT 84606. 1-800-453-1267, (801)429-7000.

Security Dynamics announced the **ACE/Server v2.0**, providing a true scalable, enterprise security solution. Pricing begins at \$2450. Security Dynamics Technologies, Inc., One Alewife Center, Cambridge, MA 02140-2312. (617)547-7820.

SQA, Inc. announced that **SQA Suite for Visual Basic** now supports **Microsoft Visual Basic 4.0**. The TeamTest Edition is \$2995 per user license; call SQA for the Client/Server Edition pricing. SQA, Inc., 10 State St., Woburn, MA 01801. (617)932-0110.

Time Line Solutions released **Time Line 6.5**, a faster and easier-to-use version of Time Line for Windows, its project management system. The suggested price of \$699 includes add-ons of Guide Line and Crystal Reports v4. Time Line Solutions Corp., 7200 Redwood Blvd., Suite 300, Novato, CA 94945. 1-800-222-TLSC.

Product Reviews

CD-ROM Reviews ClipArt Packages

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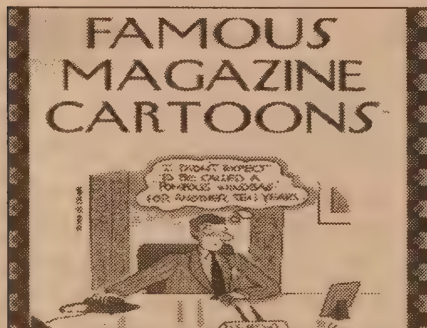
Art Parts (\$59.95)

Cartoons Fun 5 Pak (\$29.95)

Published By: T/Maker

Reviewed By: Matthew Leeds

T/Maker has long been known as a source of excellent clip art and fonts. They have



recently released new products in their ClickArt series on CD-ROM that support Macintosh, DOS, and Windows platforms. Each package includes an on-screen image browser (Kudo Image), an image format converter (Macintosh—EPS, AI 88, PICT, PrintShop Deluxe; Windows—EPS, AI 88,

CGM, WMF, PCX, TIF, PrintShop Deluxe), and a printed index to the image libraries. With the growth of the Internet two changes to these products would be welcomed: adding support to the format converter



for GIF and amending the licence agreement to allow use of the graphics in Web pages.

Cartoons Fun 5 Pak contains over five hundred cartoons in black and white and color. The cartoons are grouped in over thirty categories and are keyword indexed for quick retrieval. Ten cartoon-style fonts are also included for creating headlines and captions. The cartoons are by Phil Frank and Karl Edwards, nationally recognized cartoonists.

Famous Magazine Cartoons contains five hundred cartoons by nine world

famous cartoonists including Al Ross, Charles Barsotti, and Sidney Harris.

Art Parts contains more than three hundred images (black and white and color) in such categories as animals, borders and frames, business, office, and sports and leisure. The art is an unusual style, not what you would expect to find in a clip art collection.

Creative Fuel is an amazing collection of over three thousand images, twenty-five hundred fonts, ten handwriting fonts, previews of the Famous Magazine Cartoons and the Art Parts collection, and a free copy of *Technique Magazine*.

Famous Magazine Cartoons, Art Parts, and Cartoons Fun 5 Pak are also available in lower-cost floppy versions with fewer images. The CD-ROM versions are a better value since they contain far more images and the browser and conversion utilities. (T/Maker Corp., 1390 Villa St., Mountain View, CA 94041. 415/962-0195)

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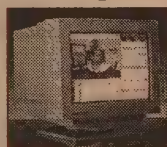
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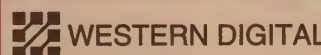
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Product Reviews...

List Price: \$29.95

Reviewed By: Woody Liswood

Have you ever thought, when looking at your favorite comic book: I can do that! With Spider Man: The Cartoon Maker you can now take your creative initiative to new heights and create your own multimedia, somewhat-animated Spider Man cartoons.

The CD provides a library of images, animation effects, and music to tell your



story. And, since you have always wanted to be a narrator, with a microphone and sound card, you can add narration to your stories.

Knowledge Adventure suggests you have about 4MB of hard disk space for working with this CD. Each minute of cartoon uses about 600K.

The documentation points out that "Children will develop their artistic skills, speech, improvisation, sense of drama, and most importantly, will be empowered to tell their own stories." This program could easily be a family affair—you could have someone who likes to draw create the background for the cartoons, have someone else do the narration, and maybe spend a few hours together creating the plot.

I found that it was easier to create an individual scene or group of scenes and string them together rather than try to create an entire long movie. One reason for this is that Spider Man recording software assumes that you will be talking for thirty seconds and times everything else to match. Thus, if you plan the scenes in thirty-second segments the process will

work much more smoothly.

If you are particularly pleased with one of your scenes, you can take a snapshot of your screen at any time and save it as a .BMP file. Conversely, if you want to add your favorite .BMP file to your cartoon, you can import 256-color or black-and-white images.

The documentation is minimal, however, there is Audio Help. When you need to know something, click on the "?" button and listen.

This is a really interesting CD-ROM. Not what I expected when I saw the package, but it did grow on me. I am looking forward to the next of this type of CD-ROM from Knowledge Adventure. (Knowledge Adventure, 4502 Dyer St., La Crescenta, CA 91214. 818/542-4200)

Corel Gallery 2

Published By: Corel Corp.

List Price: \$99

Reviewed By: Matthew Leeds

Clip art is becoming a commodity item. You can get more images than you can use in a lifetime on a single CD for less than the cost of commissioning a single piece of original art. If you buy from name publishers, you get a quality product, and the main value added is the quality of the indexing and retrieval software. Corel's Gallery 2 contains fifteen thousand pieces of clip art, five hundred Type 1 fonts, seventy-five sounds, ten QuickTime movies, QuickTime 2.0, MasterJuggler (for managing fonts), and Adobe Type Manager. This is a high-value package.

Corel also includes both 68K and PPC versions of its Gallery program, which provides the index and retrieval functions. Gallery will also convert the provided clip art from Corel's own format to a variety of formats including MacPaint, Photoshop 2.0 and 2.5, PICT, and TIFF. It also supports other formats that may be of interest to Windows users. Gallery can also be used to index existing art, and in addition, read JPEG and other formats. Gallery also pro-

vides batch conversion and printing functions, supports drag and drop, and has a slide show feature. All of the provided clip art is also key word indexed for easier browsing.

Corel also provides a book with printed copies of every font and art piece. Hardcopy documentation for Master Juggler is also provided, but not for ATM. I was impressed by the depth and quality of the art included in this package. (Corel Corp., 1600 Carling Ave., Ottawa, ONT K1Z 8R7, Canada. 613/728-0826)

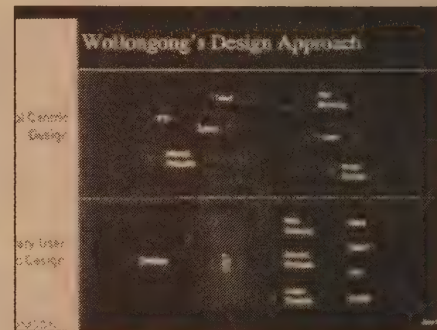
PC Software Reviews Emissary

Published By: The Wollongong Group

List Price: \$149

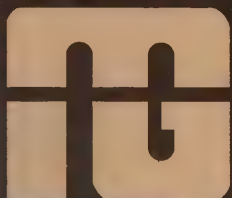
Reviewed By: Woody Liswood

Until I discovered Emissary, the software I had for accessing the Internet was really just a collection of programs, each for a



specific Internet task, rather than offering a single interface. Running under Windows and Windows 95, Emissary provides a single interface to everything I will do on the Internet—from Web surfing, participating in newsgroups, up- and downloading files, sending and receiving mail, and even creating Web pages.

Under Windows 95, Emissary uses the Windows 95 TCP/IP stack. This "stack" is the software that connects your computer to the Internet. For working under



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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Product Reviews...

Windows 3.x, Emissary provides its own TCP/IP stack.

There are two reasons I find Emissary to be the best of the Internet software currently available.

First, as I mentioned, Emissary works from a single interface. Emissary displays a vertical window that looks like the Windows File Manager with different icons in the tree structure. Want to log onto the World Wide Web? Click on the Web icon. Want to check mail? Click on the mail icon. The same is true for news, files, and telnet—just click on the appropriate icon.

The second reason is Emissary's easily understood and functional drag-and-drop structure. Here you can really appreciate what a graphical interface is all about and how it really should work. Everything is an object which you can place wherever you want to do whatever you want.

An interesting and useful feature is the drag-and-drop tray. It works like the Windows clipboard, only it can hold multiple objects until you decide what you want to do with them. For example, while exploring on the Web, I can grab a home page address from the tree structure and drop it into the tray. I can add additional home pages or documents or pictures, etc. as I surf the net. Later, I can call up the mail software, create a message, drag the various objects into the letter, and send them to a friend.

Emissary has made my Web surfing as easy as working with the File Manager. Give it a try yourself. (The Wollongong Group, Inc., 1129 San Antonio Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303. 415/962-7100, 1-800-872-8649)

Amiga Software Texture Gallery

Published By: Amiga Library Services

List Price: \$44.95

Reviewed By: Douglas J. Nakahara

If a picture's worth a thousand words,

then we'd have to fill the magazine to cover Texture Gallery's one thousand PD images. The two-disc CD-ROM was made with the LightWave 3D (NewTek) user in mind for surfacing 3-D objects; however, anyone needing texture graphics would find it useful. Each image comes in IFF, Targa, TIFF, PICT, JPEG, and SGI formats.

Many categories of images are provided including bricks, cloth, carpet, canvas, granite, grass, marble, metal, rock, stone, stucco, tile, water, and wood. Most of the images are very detailed and high quality. I did notice that a few images may be more applicable to backdrops than for texturing 3-D objects, however.

The collection does fall short of perfection in that most of the images cannot be seamlessly tiled. Many textures, like the bricks, are fairly tight shots and would almost certainly need to be tiled to realistically cover an object. With some of the more organic textures you might be able to get away with the old trick of reverse-pasting one edge to the opposite side to create a tileable image. And there are many images that wouldn't require tiling.

To help you pick out your image, author Michael Meshew has included thumbnail index pictures. This has become somewhat of a trademark with Meshew's products and something I greatly appreciate. Texture Gallery should be on any 3-D animator's shopping list. (Amiga Library Services, 610 N. Alma School Rd., Suite 18, Chandler, AZ 85224-3687. 1-800-804-0833)

FreeForm

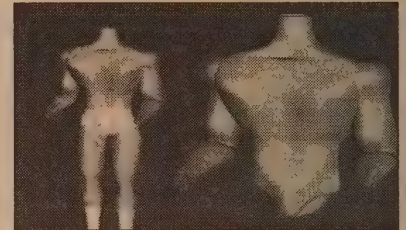
Published By: Fori Owurowa

List Price: \$80

Reviewed By: Douglas J. Nakahara

FreeForm is a spline-based 3-D modeling program capable of exporting LightWave (Videoscape), Real3D (Bspline and NURB), Imagine, and Renderman object formats. It includes many great tools to help you create smooth, organic-looking objects, often a difficult task with polygon-based models.

FreeForm's main strength lies in its



rail-extruding function, which requires two "rails" and a cross-section. Imagine two curvy lines (i.e., rails), one above the other, that form a rough outline of a fish. Extruding a vertically elongated oval (cross section) along these rails quickly forms a smooth fish-like 3-D object. If you designate a "target," the generated cross sections will gradually "morph" into the shape of the target. You can also construct an object entirely out of cross sections, which is like creating an object using differently shaped bread slices, where the "loaf" forms the object's shape.

Hierarchical bones are featured along with real-time inverse kinematics capabilities, allowing the fluid bending of objects. You can also create an animation of an object morphing into another and interactively save "in-between" states as individual objects. Nine separate workspaces are available. Complex objects like animals and plants can be created by individually modeling their smaller subparts. Objects can be quickly rendered using various quality settings.

FreeForm has oodles of other cool modeling features. The learning curve is a bit steep (particularly if you have never seen it used), and the documentation could use some help. However, once you get the hang of it, the results can be quite remarkable. FreeForm should be part of every modeler's arsenal. (Fori Owurowa, 1873-75 Cropsey Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11214. 718/996-1842)

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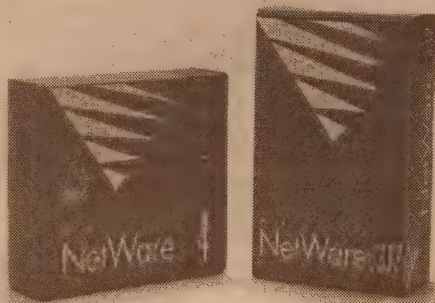
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E-mail address (continued)										I Would Like To Receive My Quotation Sent To Me By: ☐ Fax ☐ Phone ☐ E Mail ☐ Mail										When requesting different types of systems or multiple systems types make copies of this form at 100% of actual size, do not reduce in size. Fill in your number of forms to follow.										Enter # Of Requested Forms 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9									
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☐ PC COMPATIBLE ☐ MACINTOSH ☐ PC NAME BRAND ☐ Network WORKSTATION ☐ PC NOTEBOOK ☐ Network FILESERVER ☐ MACINTOSH NOTEBOOK										☐ Name Brand ☐ Compatibles ☐ No Preference										Step 1: Enter NoteBook Brand Name & Model #. If Preference									
Quantity / Choices 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 or More										My Budget For System Is ☐ Under \$1000 ☐ \$1000 to \$1999 ☐ \$2000 to \$2999 ☐ \$3000 to \$3999 ☐ \$4000 to \$4999 ☐ Over \$5000										☐ Call Me For A More Detailed Quote. ☐ Quote Me For Selected Upgrade/Peripherals Choices Only.									

STEP TWO: SYSTEM CONFIGURATION:										☐ INTEL ☐ AMD ☐ CYRIX ☐ NEXGEN ☐ MAC QUADRA/PERFORMA ☐ MACPOWER PC																			
CPU MHz & SPEED: ☐ PENTIUM ☐ 486 ☐ DX4 ☐ DX2 ☐ DX ☐ SX ☐ SLC ☐ Quadra ☐ PowerPC ☐ 133 ☐ 120 ☐ 100 ☐ 90 ☐ 80 ☐ 75 ☐ 66 ☐ 60 ☐ 50 ☐ 40										BUS TYPE ☐ PCI ☐ VLB ☐ EISA ☐ ISA										CACHE ☐ 64K ☐ 128K ☐ 256K ☐ 512K									
RAM: ☐ 1MB ☐ 2MB ☐ 4MB ☐ 8MB ☐ 16MB ☐ 32MB ☐ 64MB ☐ 128MB										MONITOR: ☐ SVGA ☐ VGA ☐ MONO ☐ 26 DPI ☐ 14" ☐ 15" ☐ 17" ☐ Non Interlace ☐ 28 DPI ☐ 20" ☐ 21" ☐ Multisync																			
HARD DISK DRIVE: ☐ 100MB+ ☐ 300MB+ ☐ 500MB+ ☐ 1GB+ ☐ 4GB+ ☐ IDE ☐ SCSI ☐ 200MB+ ☐ 400MB+ ☐ 700MB+ ☐ 2GB+ ☐ 8GB+										FLOPPY DRIVE: ☐ 1.44MB and/or 1.2MB										FAX MODEM: ☐ Internal ☐ External ☐ 9600bps ☐ 14400bps ☐ 28800bps									
POINTING INPUT DEVICES: ☐ Any Mouse ☐ MS Mouse ☐ Keyboard ☐ Serial ☐ Bus ☐ PS2 ☐ Trackball ☐ Joystick ☐ Ball Point ☐ Pen										CASE TYPE: ☐ Mid Tower ☐ Desktop ☐ Full Tower										VIDEO CARD RAM ☐ 1MB ☐ 2MB ☐ 3MB ☐ 4MB ☐ 512KB									
OPERATING SYSTEM NEEDED: ☐ Windows 95 ☐ OS2/Warp ☐ Win NT ☐ Mac ☐ UNIX ☐ DOS/Windows 3.11																													

STEP THREE: MULTIMEDIA UPGRADE										Please Add To Step 1 & 2 Quotation										Please Quote Me Separately																													
CD ROM DRIVE: ☐ Internal ☐ IDE ☐ SCSI ☐ External										SPEED ☐ 2X ☐ 4X ☐ 6X										BRAND NAME ☐ BRAND NAME ☐ No Brand Name Preference CD ROM Brand Name and Model Number										SOUND CARD ☐ 16Bit ☐ 32Bit										SPEAKERS ☐ Less Than 25W ☐ 25 to 50W ☐ 50 to 75W ☐ More Than 75W									

STEP FOUR: NOTEBOOK SECTION - Please Note You Must Make Choices In Steps 1 & 2 To Complete Step 4																													
SCREEN TYPE: ☐ Mono ☐ Dual Scan Color ☐ Active Color										PCMCIA SLOT: ☐ Type I ☐ Type II ☐ Type III ☐ Type IV										☐ Audio Capable ☐ Docking Station ☐ Extra Battery ☐ Fax Modem ☐ CD/MultiMedia									

STEP FIVE: NETWORKING NEEDS: Please Contact Me on My Networking Needs Indicated Below ☐ Software ☐ Hardware ☐ Consultation ☐ Design ☐ Installation ☐ Administration ☐ MS Workgroups ☐ Users 2 to 10 ☐ Users 10 to 50 ☐ Users Over 50 ☐ Lantastic ☐ Apple Talk ☐ Novell ☐ MS NT										22067																			
STEP SIX: UPGRADES & PERIPHERALS: ☐ Ink Jet Printer ☐ Tape Backup ☐ Accelerator ☐ Digitizer ☐ Laser Printer ☐ Color Printer ☐ Dot Matrix Printer ☐ Flat Bed Scanner ☐ Hand Scanner ☐ Zip Drive																													

Fun And Games: The ^{Annual} 3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Product Reviews...

Reviewed By: Douglas J. Nakakihara

This CD-ROM is the second in a series of collections of freely distributable LightWave 3D (NewTek) objects, scenes, surface files, textures, animated maps, images, utility programs, AReXX scripts, CG, PostScript fonts, and Toaster effects. According to the documentation, there are over eight thousand files. Most of the content has been garnered from BBSes and FTP sites, so some things are shareware.

The object files are grouped into directories like anatomy, animals, aviation, botany, buildings, clocks, computer, environment, furniture, groceries, holidays, horror, household, kitchen, lamps, logos, maps, music, phones, ships, space, sports, tools, vehicles, video, and weapons, just to name a few! There are some commercial contributions from Acuris and Viewpoint. Most of the objects are beautifully detailed and not the run-of-the-mill stuff you see on some collections of this type. (I did notice some duplication of objects, and a few objects I have seen in other collections.)

You can tell that author Michael Meshew went through a lot of work to organize the files and provide informational text where appropriate. I really appreciated the inclusion of thumbnail reference pictures of all images and objects (IFF24, HAM8, Hi-res, JPEG, and Targa formats).

I can't even pick highlights because there are so many great things on this disc. The breadth of objects is phenomenal, and the price makes it a steal. The disc is ISO 9660 level 1, so it is multiplatform readable; however, I did have problems loading scene files into the pre-release LightWave for the PC. (Amiga Library Services, 610 N. Alma School Rd., Suite 18, Chandler, AZ 85224-3687. 1-800-804-0833)

Macintosh Hardware TelePort Platinum Fax/Modem

Manufactured By: Global Village

List Price: \$279

Reviewed By: Michael Robin



Smaller, faster, better seems to describe the TelePort Platinum, the latest fax/modem for the Macintosh from Global Village. The Platinum weighs about 10 oz. and fits easily on a crowded desk or in a briefcase when you are traveling. It offers 28.8Kbps data (or up to 115,200bps with compression and error correction) and 14.4Kbps fax capabilities.

The status displays on the modem are minimal with three green lights that show power, activity, and connection. Like other Global Village modems, a display bar appears in the menu bar on your Mac showing data transmission activity and a status message of the modem's current state, such as ready or receiving.

In addition to increased speed, the TelePort Platinum can distinguish between an incoming voice call and an incoming fax. It will route the call to your telephone or answering machine or to GlobalFax software.

Using the control panel, you can register online, set the modem's speaker vol-

ume, and select the error-correction/data-compression protocol to use. Global Village might cost a bit more, but it is worth it. (Global Village Communications, Inc., 1144 E. Arques Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94083. 408/523-1050. URL: <http://www.info.globalvillage.com/>)

Video Tutorials

The Creative Magic Of Ron Thornton: Spacecraft Model Design

Published By: Desktop Images

List Price: \$49.95

Reviewed By: Douglas J. Nakakihara

Video tutorials are a great way to learn a computer program. Not only do you learn what this button or that menu does, but you gain insight into how to best use the application. Of course, you must have the right teacher, and for LightWave 3D (NewTek), Desktop Images has enlisted one of the best: Ron Thornton. Thornton is the mastermind behind the fantastic 3-D effects in *Babylon 5*.

For two hours, you are given a front-row seat looking over Thornton's shoulder. They basically turn on the camera and just let him work his magic. He personally takes you step by step through modeling an intricate spaceship. His melodic British accent and unassuming style captivated me. Throughout the tutorial, there was always an expressed or implied logic to what he did, which really helps to retain the information.

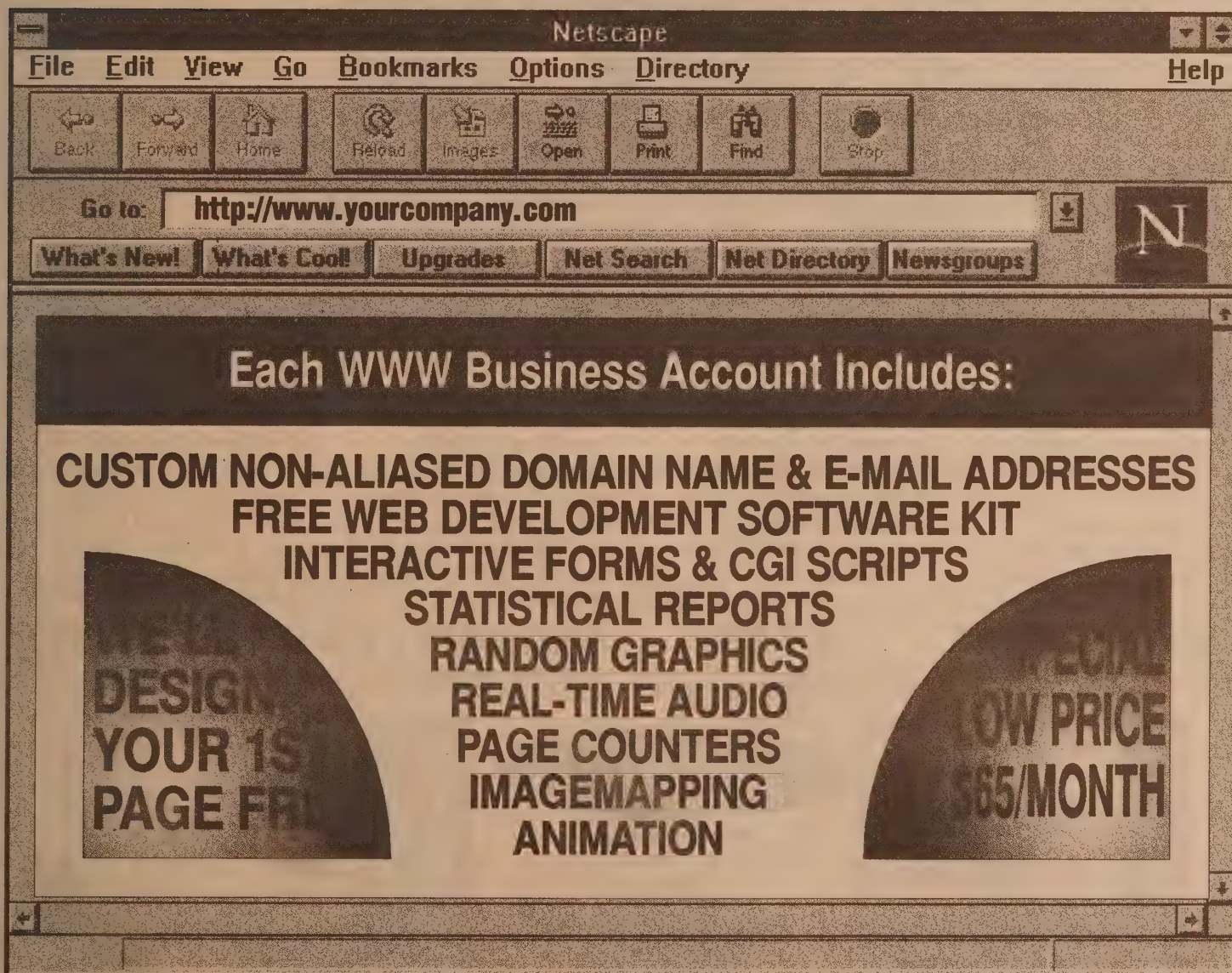
Thornton uses a nice mix of shortcut keystrokes and menu selections. He really opens up his bag of tricks for this video and doesn't appear to hold anything back.

continued on page 108

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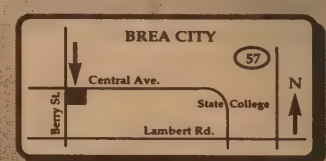
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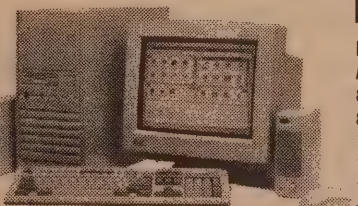
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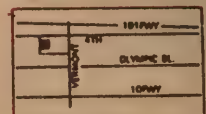
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256K SVGA Card	\$ 30
512K SVGA Card	\$ 38
Trident 8900D 1MB ISA	\$ 55
Trident 9440 1MB VLB	\$ 75
S3 VLB 1MB SVGA Card	\$ 72
Diamond Stealth 64 VLB 2MB VRAM	\$245
Diamond Stealth 64 PCI 2MB VRAM	\$245
ATI Mach 64 VLB 2MB VRAM	\$265
ATI Mach 64 PCI 2MB VRAM	\$265

Hard Drive

540MB Conner, Maxtor, W.D.	\$ 175
560MB Samsung IDE H.D.D.	\$ 165
850MB Conner, Maxtor, Quantum	\$ 210
850MB Samsung IDE H.D.D.	\$ 200
1.2Gig Samsung IDE H.D.D.	\$ 235
1.2Gig Conner, Maxtor IDE H.D.D.	\$ 250
1.08Gig SCSI H.D.D.	\$ 375
1.20Gig SCI H.D.D.	\$ 450
2.01Gig SCSI H.D.D.	\$ 650

MOUSE

Z-Nix Mouse	\$ 8
Wireless Mouse	\$ 17
Microsoft Mouse	\$ 29
TrueDox Track Ball	\$ 28

INTERFACE CARD

ISA IDE+I/O	\$ 15
VLB IDE+I/O Support 4 HDD	\$ 19
VLB Enhanced IDE+I/O Support 4 HDD	\$ 35
SCSI2 Super IDE+I/O Enhanced Combo	\$125
Adaptec 2940 PCI Ctrl.	\$195

MOTHER BOARD

486Dx2-50Mhz 256K, 3VLB ZIFF Socket w/CPU	\$ 165
486Dx2-66Mhz 256K, 3VLB ZIFF Socket w/CPU	\$ 175
486Dx2-80Mhz 256K, 3VLB ZIFF Socket w/CPU	\$ 195
486Dx4-100Mhz 256K, 3VLB ZIFF Socket w/CPU	\$ 200
Pentium Triton 75/90/100Mhz 256K w/o CPU	\$ 185
Built In Enh. IDE+I/O.	

Upgrade Option

Double Speed 2X Multi Media

Acer 2X Speed Enhanced IDE CD-ROM
Acer 16 Bits Sound Card, 120Watts Speaker
11 CD-Titles

\$ 199

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Acer 2X Speed Enhanced IDE CD-ROM
Acer 16 Bits Sound Card, 120Watts Speaker
Microsoft CD-ROM Packages
17 CD-Titles

\$ 255

Please call for other options such as Monitor, Memory, Tape -
backup, Hard Drives, and other things.

Special Pick Of the Month

Diamond Stealth 64 Video PCI w/2MB VRAM,
Video Player capabilities **\$ 265**

486DX4-100Mhz Write Back Cache M.B. w/CPU **\$ 175**

Pentium Intel Triton Chip mother board
w/ Intel Pentium 100Mhz C.P.U., Support EDO RAM. **\$ 425**

External 4X Speed CD-ROM,
No need any inte
hook up to 'printer port', perfect for Notebook user. **\$ 275**

New !!!

PCI SVGA Card w/MPEG Player
Capability and 1MB RAM Upgradable
to 2MB RAM, Avan Logic Chipset **\$ 75**

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486DX4-100Mhz

- 4MB RAM
- 9.4" Color DSTN Screen
- 340MB HDD
- 16 Bits Sound Card & Mic.
- Built In CD-ROM
- SVGA W/1MB RAM
- 2 PCMCIA Slots Type I,II,III
- High Speed I/O
- Micro Joystick Mouse
- Ext. 1.44MB FDD

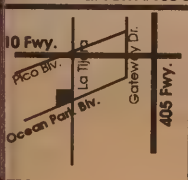
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Pentium 75Mhz

- 8MB RAM
- 9.5" Color DSTN Screen
- 540MB HDD
- 16 Bits Sound Card & Mic.
- SVGA W/1MB RAM
- 2 PCMCIA Slots Type I,II,III
- High Speed I/O
- Built In SCSI Port
- Ext. 1.44MB FDD

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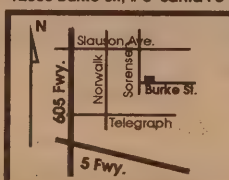
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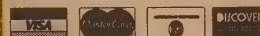


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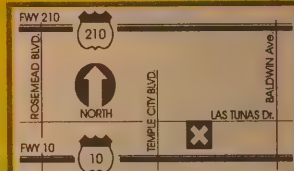
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UMC 486DX4-PCI w/ 256K Cache	\$ 109
VIA 486DX4-VLB w/ 256K Cache	\$ 99
Amtron 6900 486DX4-VLB w/ 256K Cache	\$ 95
386-40 Built-in CPU w/ 128K	\$ 89

Hard Drives

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Western Digital 850MB IDE	\$ 189
Western Digital 630MB IDE	\$ 172
Maxtor 71620A-1.6GB IDE	\$ 318
Maxtor 750AV-850MB IDE	\$ 189
Maxtor 540AV-540MB IDE	\$ 162
Conner CFP1080S-1.08 SCSI-2	\$ 265
Conner CFS1275A-1.2GB IDE	\$ 249
Conner CFS850A-850MB IDE	\$ 189

CD-Rom Drives

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NEC 6X-512 SCSI CD-ROM	\$ 310
6X IDE CD-ROM	\$ 189
Toshiba 4.4X-3601 SCSI	\$ 285
Toshiba 4X-5301 SCSI	\$ 199
Toshiba 4X-3502 IDE	\$ 139
Teac 4X-55A IDE	\$ 122
Panasonic 2X-562B	\$ 65

Monitors

Viewsonic 17PS (17" SVGA N-I)	\$ 879
Viewsonic 17 (17" SVGA N-I)	\$ 795
Viewsonic 17GS (17" SVGA N-I)	\$ 749
Viewsonic 17EA (17" SVGA w/ Built-in Speakers)	\$ 625
Viewsonic 15GA (15" SVGA N-I)	\$ 459
Viewsonic 15G (15" SVGA N-I)	\$ 399
Mag DX17F (17" .26 N-I)	\$ 625
Mag DX15F (15" .28 N-I)	\$ 349
Shamrock 17" .28 N-I	\$ 549
Shamrock 15" .28 N-I	\$ 315
Shamrock 14" .28 N-I	\$ 215

* Please call for prices on NEC, Sony, or any unlisted model

MicroProcessors

Intel Pentium 133MHz	\$ 548
Intel Pentium 120MHz	\$ 368
Intel Pentium 100MHz	\$ 299
Intel Pentium 90MHz	\$ 259
Intel Pentium 75MHz	\$ 179
Intel DX4-100MHz	\$ 115
AMD DX4-120MHz	\$ 119
AMD DX4-100MHz	\$ 99
Intel DX2- 66MHz	\$ 95
AMD DX2- 66MHz	\$ 59

Controller Cards

Adaptec AHA-2940 PCI Wide SCSI-3	\$ 249
Adaptec AHA-2940 PCI Fast SCSI-2	\$ 199
32-Bit VLB I/O	\$ 19
16-Controller	\$ 14

Sound Cards

Creative Lab AWE32 ASP & Wave MCD	\$ 235
Creative Lab SCSI-2 OEM	\$ 109
Creative Lab 16 MCD OEM	\$ 89
Creative Lab 16 IDE OEM	\$ 79
Opti 16-Bit Sound Card	\$ 49

Keyboards

Focus 9000 Keyboard w/ Programmable Calculator	\$ 43
Fujitsu 4720 Click Keyboard	\$ 38
Focus 8000 Keyboard w/ Calculator	\$ 36
Focus 7000 Keyboard w/ Trackball Built-in	\$ 36
Focus 6200 Keyboard w/ Cover	\$ 29
Focus 2001 Keyboard w/ Cover	\$ 29
Chicony 101 Enhance Keyboard	\$ 16

Video Cards

ATI mach64 PCI 4MB VRAM	\$ 429
ATI mach64 PCI 2MB VRAM	\$ 259
Diamond Stealth64 PCI 4MB VRAM	\$ 419
Diamond Stealth64 PCI 2MB VRAM	\$ 249
Diamond Stealth64 PCI 2MB DRAM	\$ 165
Diamond Stealth64 PCI 1MB DRAM	\$ 118
Diamond Stealth64 VLB 2MB DRAM	\$ 165
Trident 9440 PCI 1MB	\$ 69
Trident 9440 VLB 1MB	\$ 65
Trident 8900 ISA 1MB	\$ 59

Modems

US Robotics Sporter 28.8 Ext. Data / Fax V.34	\$ 219
US Robotics Sporter 28.8 Int. Data / Fax V.34	\$ 179
US Robotics Sporter 14.4 Ext. Data / Fax	\$ 105
US Robotics Sporter 14.4 Int. Data / Fax	\$ 89
Smartlink 28.8 Int. Data / Fax w/ Voice	\$ 159
Smartlink 28.8 Int. Data / Fax V.34	\$ 129
Smartlink 14.4 Int. Data / Fax w/ Voice	\$ 55
Smartlink 14.4 Int. Data / Fax	\$ 49

Memory

Simmm 8x36 (32MB) 72-pin	\$ 919
Simmm 4x32 (16MB) 72-pin	\$ 469
Simmm 2x32 (8MB) 72-pin	\$ 249
Simmm 1x32 (4MB) 72-pin	\$ 129
Simmm 4x3 (4MB) 30-pin	\$ 132
Simmm 1x3 (1MB) 30-pin	\$ 35

Chassis

Full Tur. Case w/ UL 250W P/S (Six - 5 1/4" & Two - 3 1/2" Slots)	\$ 69
Mid Tur. Case w/ UL 230W P/S (Three - 5 1/4" & Two - 3 1/2" Slots)	\$ 52
Duluxe Mid Tur. Case w/ UL 230W P/S (Three - 5 1/4" & Two - 3 1/2" Slots)	\$ 42
Mini Tur. Case w/ UL 230W P/S (Two - 5 1/4" & Two - 3 1/2" Slots)	\$ 34
Desk Top Case w/ UL 230W P/S (Three - 5 1/4" & Two - 3 1/2" Slots)	\$ 44

Floppy Drives

Teac Dual 1.2 MB & 1.44 MB	\$ 82
Teac 1.2 MB Floppy	\$ 42
Teac 1.44 MB Floppy	\$ 32
NEC 1.2 MB Floppy	\$ 39
NEC 1.44 MB Floppy	\$ 27

Tape Back Up

Colorado T-1000 Int. 850MB	\$ 175
Colorado DJ-30 Int. 350mb	\$ 119
Conner 850MB Int.	\$ 175
Conner 420MB Int.	\$ 135

Hewlett Packard Deskjet 600C \$ 299

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AMD DX4-120MHz	\$ 998
Intel DX4-100MHz	\$ 968
AMD DX4-100MHz	\$ 958
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AMD DX4-120MHz	\$ 1198
Intel DX4-100MHz	\$ 1168
AMD DX4-100MHz	\$ 1158
Intel DX2-66MHz	\$ 1148
AMD DX2-66MHz	\$ 1098

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- > Western Digital 850MB IDE Hard Drive
- > Diamond Stealth 64 PCI w/ 2MB Video Dram
- > On-board PCI Bus Master IDE & Multi I/O (Uarts)
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Pentium-120MHz	\$ 1628
Pentium-100MHz	\$ 1528
Pentium-90MHz	\$ 1478
Pentium-75MHz	\$ 1378

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- > Diamond Stealth 64 PCI w/ 4MB Video Vram
- > 2-Hi Speed (16550 Fast Uarts)
- > MAG 17" DX17F .26 (1280x1024)
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- > Microsoft Mouse !!!

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- > Intel Pentium Chip Processor
- > EPA "Energy Star" Power Management
- > 256K Ultrafast Write Back Cache
- > 16MB 72-pin Ram exp to 128MB
- > NEC 1.44MB Floppy Drives
- > Western Digital 1.2GB IDE Hard Drive
- > Diamond Stealth 64 PCI w/ 2MB Video Dram
- > On-board PCI Bus Master IDE & Multi I/O (Uarts)
- > MAG 17" DX17F .26 (1280x1024)
- > Mid Tur. Case w/ UL 230W Power Supply
- > 101 Enhanced Keyboard
- > New! Full Version Microsoft Windows '95 (manual and disk included)
- > Free 3-buttons Mouse!!!

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- 2 Super Mosaic Internet Starter Kit
- 3 Introduction to Windows '95
- 4 Body Work for Windows
- 5 The Greatest Paper Airplanes
- 6 Cyclone
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- 9 Zodiac Games Pack 2 (7 Games)
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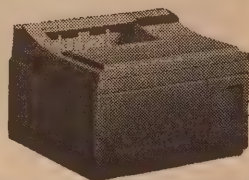
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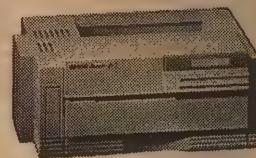
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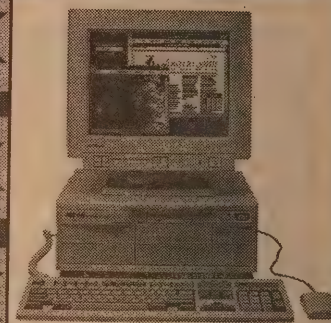
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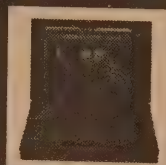
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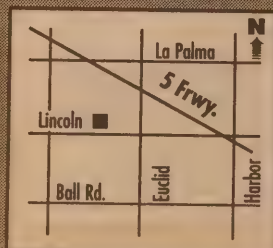
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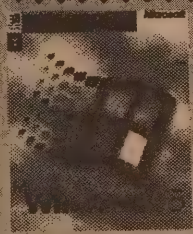
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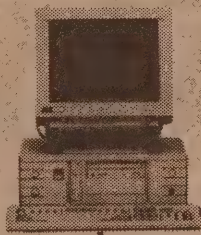
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Sound Blaster 16 SCSI	99
Sound Blaster 32	159
Sound Blaster 32 AWE	245
Sony 2X CD-ROM	37
Sony 4X CD-ROM	125
Acer 5X CD-ROM	145
Epson 5X CD-ROM	145
Teac 6X CD-ROM	239
Nec 6X CD-ROM	359

Hard Drive

Seagate 540MB	\$ 159
Samsung 850MB	179
Samsung 1.08GB	210
Conner 850MB	175
Conner 1.08GB	210
Quantum 850MB	175
Quantum 1.08GB	210
Quantum 1.5GB	329
Maxtor 850MB	175
Maxtor 1.2GB	241
Western Digital 850MB	179
Western Digital 1.2GB	259

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Panasonic P2130	\$ 169
Citizen GSX-220	159
Canon BJ-200ex	189
Canon BJ-4100	359
Canon QL-400e	335
Epson Stylus Color	479
Epson Stylus Color II	419
Epson Action 1100	379
Epson Action 1400	479
HP Deskjet 600	285
HP Deskjet 660C	375
HP Laserjet 5L	479
HP Laserjet 5P	855
HP Laserjet 4M+	1835
HP Scanjet 3P	375
HP Scanjet IILC	895

Monitor & Graphic Card

Monochrome	\$ 74
Mono VGA	84
Shamrock 14"	210
Shamrock 15"	310
Shamrock 17"	549
Mag DX15F	315
Mag DX17F	595
Viewsonic15ES	355
Viewsonic17GS	672
NEC XV15	459
NEC XV17	729
Sony15" SF	435
Mitsubishi 15"	315
Paradise VLB 1MB	57
SIS PCI 1MB	58
Diamond SE PCI 1MB	79
Diamond Stealth 64 PCI 1MB	115
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14.4K V32 int	\$ 37
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14.4K V32 ext	79
28.8K V34 int	105
28.8K V34 ext	135
Acer 101 Keyboard	17
3Button HI-RES Mouse	6
VLB Enhanced SIDE (Winbone)	15
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AB Switch Box	12
ABCD Switch Box	19

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3Com 10BT Combo	95
3Com 100MB PCI Card	169
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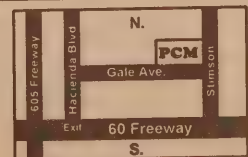
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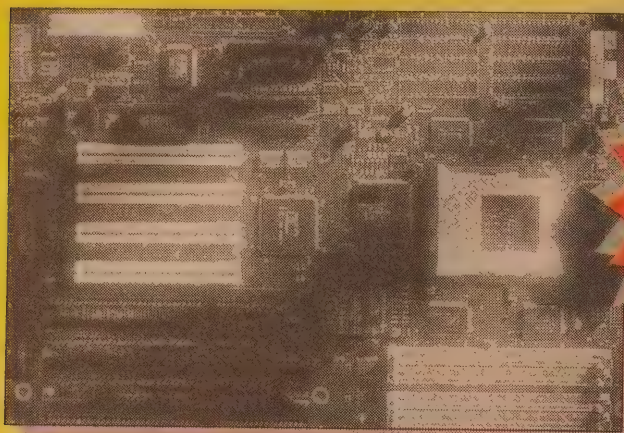


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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Product Reviews...continued from page 92

The pace of the tutorial is about right, but your VCR will get a real workout from pausing and rewinding. LightWave "new-bees" may have some problems because everything is not always explained with crystal clarity. You'll want to keep the LightWave manual handy.

Generally, I get extremely bored with video tutorials, but this gem is an exception. I got a tremendous amount of information out of this tape. Needless to say, this is a must-have for any LightWave modeler. There is also a second tape that covers surfacing the spacefighter object. (Desktop Images, RAVE VIDEO, P.O. Box 10908, Burbank, CA 91505. 1-800-377-1039)

The Creative Magic Of Ron Thornton: Spacecraft Surfacing Techniques

Published By: Desktop Images

List Price: \$49.95

Reviewed By: Douglas J. Nakakihara

This video tape is basically "part 2" of Ron Thornton's tutorial on how to build a spaceship using LightWave 3D (NewTek). (Thornton is the main person behind Foundation Imaging, the company that does the CGI for the TV show *Babylon 5*.) This installment concentrates on how to surface the spaceship object modeled in the first tape, *Spacecraft Model Design*.

Without missing a beat, Thornton continues his methodical and logical teaching formula right into this final leg of spaceship construction. He offers a tremendous amount of insight into how to make your objects look real. Most of the tape is spent on creating the necessary image maps with a smaller—but adequate—amount allocated to actual LightWave surfacing.

One word of caution if you are an Amiga-only LightWave user: Thornton uses Photoshop exclusively, which is not available on the Amiga. However, I was able to mimic essentially everything using

ImageFX from Nova Design. Even if you don't have either of these applications, you should still be able to recreate the basic results using just another paint program. It just may take you a bit longer.

The tempo of this tape is a bit faster than the first, and Thornton races through a great deal of material. A lot of repetitive stuff is skipped. In the end, you will be amazed at just how easy it all is. Both tapes are a must-have for any LightWave animator. (Desktop Images, RAVE VIDEO, P.O. Box 10908, Burbank, CA 91505. 1-800-377-1039)

Pyrotechniques: Creating Explosive Effects With LightWave 3D

Published By: Desktop Images

List Price: \$49.95

Reviewed By: Douglas J. Nakakihara

In the world of 3-D animation, being able to convincingly blow up objects is pretty much a requirement, particularly for outer space shots. In Desktop Images' *Pyrotechniques*, Brad Peebler, NewTek's LightWave 3D Product Manager, takes you through a step-by-step video tutorial on this very subject. Besides explosions, he also covers how to make a smoke trail and a flame exhaust for a missile.

If you've watched sci-fi TV shows like *seaQuest* and *Babylon 5*, a lot of the effects will seem familiar. But, you will probably be surprised at just how simple the basic techniques are. When appropriate, Peebler shares the logic behind things, which really helps you retain the information and will encourage further experimentation. Throughout the tape, he offers generous helpings of shortcuts that will significantly enhance your overall LightWave skills.

Peebler uses PC LightWave, so Amiga users will want version 4.0 to follow all of the instructions. However, most of the techniques are still very useful with prior versions of LightWave.

The pace of the tape is swift and covers

a lot of ground. Except for a short lesson on mapping an explosion image sequence onto a polygon, all of the techniques presented use the tools built right into LightWave. You don't need to touch a paint program to do an image map for this or a texture map for that. I've been very impressed with Desktop Images' LightWave offerings, and this tape was no exception. Highly recommended for all LightWave animators. (Desktop Images, RAVE Video, P.O. Box 10908, Burbank, CA 91505. 818/841-8980)

Books

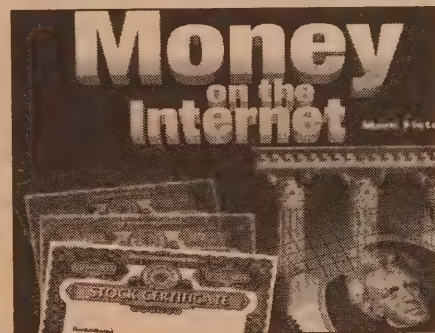
A Pocket Tour Of Money On The Internet

Author: Mark Fister

Published By: SYBEX

List Price: \$12.99

Reviewed By: David A. Simon, CPA



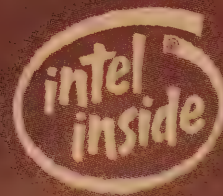
A Pocket Tour of Money on the Internet tells you where to go in cyberspace for financial services and research, be it securities analysis, online trading, news, or portfolio management.

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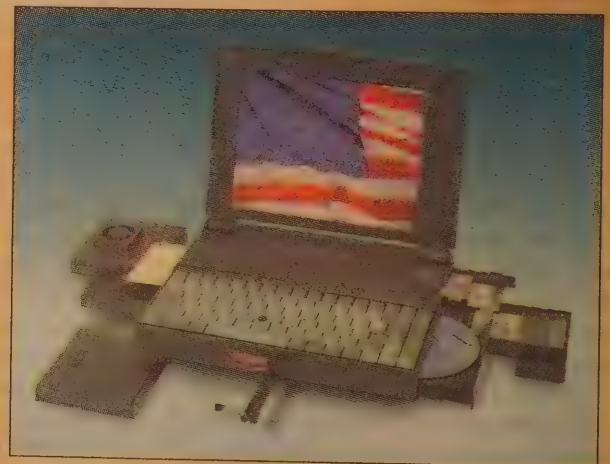
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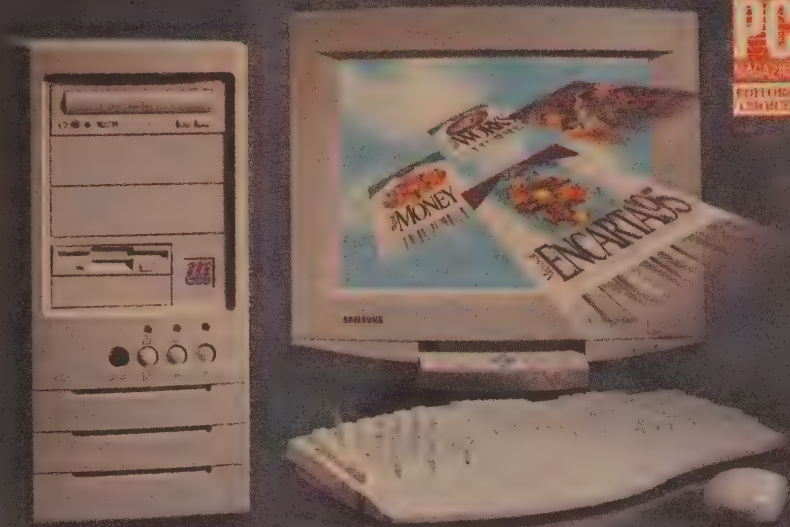
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Product Reviews...

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Fister is a skillful tour guide, offering organization, structure, and credible opinions, pointing out both exceptional resources and pitfalls. All this helps the Internet traveler to save time and efficiently find the best places to visit. (SYBEX, Inc., 2021 Challenger Dr., Alameda, CA 94501. 1-800-227-2346)

Legal Care For Your Software

Published By: SYBEX

List Price: \$39.99

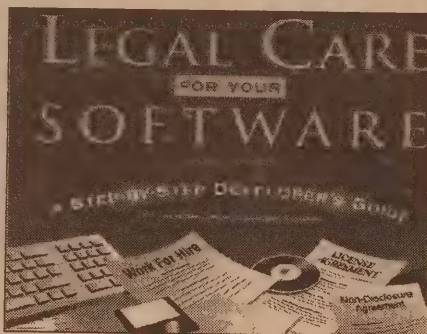
Reviewed By: David A. Simon, CPA

Legal Care for Your Software is a self-help guide through the legal wilderness faced by programmers and developers when structuring a contract. It first provides a primer on contract lingo and basic legal concepts such as ownership. From this underpinning, the book focuses on the business legalities that

comprise the less fun aspects of professional computer programming.

Important areas covered include:

- "How-to" oriented information on copyright, patent, and trade secret protection
- Structuring a licensing agreement
- Limiting liability on software sale or licensing
- Contract negotiation strategies



Doing business with a large publisher or client can be tricky for the solo software person or for a couple of developers operating out of a garage. The small fry is at a natural disadvantage when it comes to the burdens of legal counsel, representation, and experience. By acquainting you with the basics and beyond, this volume helps you level the field before approaching an agreement.

A variety of sample forms are provided for frequently encountered situations, including letters of intent, site license agreements, and assignment of copyright.

Provisions for enforcing the contract, as well as real-world techniques for assuring payment and compliance with terms, are explored. And, if all else fails, there is a full chapter covering remedies from sending collection notices to actions for infringement.

The book is written in terms that a layperson can easily understand, yet is tightly edited to ensure accuracy. Users with legal sophistication will also find the book helpful, without it sounding simplistic or pedantic. Formal legal citations are footnoted as necessary, but never to the detriment of readability for the intended non-practitioner audience. (SYBEX, Inc.,

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Inside 3D Studio Release 4 (Book And CD-ROM)

Authors: Steven D. Elliot and Phillip P. Miller

Published By: New Rider's Publishing

List Price: \$55

Reviewed By: Pamela Mason

This twelve-hundred-page book updates the previous edition to cover Autodesk 3D Studio's latest version—Release 4. The authors spend a good amount of time on R4's new features, which include the ability to do Inverse Kinematics in the keyframer, the camera match perspective, and Keyscripting language.

The CD-ROM contains several utilities, files for the exercises and examples in the book, Paint Shop Pro 2.01, Graphics Workshop 7.0, the Autodesk Animator Pro Player for playing flics, Vistapro, a program for creating realistic landscape images, and various surface maps for texturing objects.

Inside 3D Studio Release 4 is packed with pragmatic tips and solutions from professionals who can help you learn from their experience (mistakes). For example, insightful information is included on importing .DXF file format mesh files. Their advice is wise and will especially help the new animator to develop good work habits for years to come. From project management to storyboarding to choosing an output format such as video, laserdisc, or DAT. This book touches on many of the subjects relative to the animation industry in general (not just 3D Studio), which will make it an indispensable next-to-the-computer resource. (New Riders Publishing, 201 West 103rd St., Indianapolis, IN 46290-1097. 1-800-428-5331)

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Author: Sharon Crawford

Published By: SYBEX

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Reviewed By: David A. Simon, CPA

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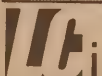
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starts with the basics. This book will teach you a V.42bis from a V.42—that, which protocol to select, and how to set the dip switches. Even before you plug in, you get straightforward shopping tips that cut to the copper: "DynaComm has almost as many features as ProComm Plus and only costs twice as much....What can I say?"

Indeed, one theme that permeates the book is "What does all this cost me?" Targeted to the personal or small-business user, *Your First Modem* serves as a guide to superior value at nearly every turn.

A separate chapter is devoted to each of the major, commercial online services (CompuServe, Prodigy, America Online)—not just the barebones comparisons of "has this, won't do that," but how to use it and what you'll get for the money.

The largest section is devoted to the Internet



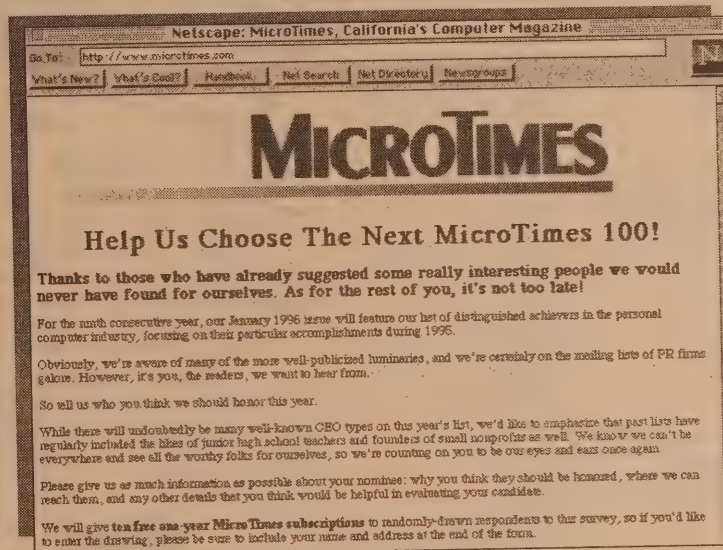
and provides extensive guidance on the major Service Providers, describing their key-by-key how-to, as well as their ethos. Example: "The WELL has a really archaic interface that makes absolutely nothing easy for you. However, subscribers to The WELL are...fanatically attached."

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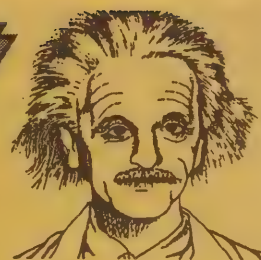
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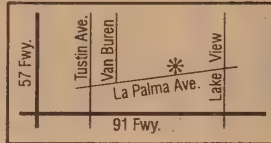
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- Diamond Stealth PCI SVGA card w/1MB
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- Intel Triton 75-166 MHz mother board with pipeline burst cache
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- 1.6GB HDD • PCI IDE controller
- Diamond Stealth PCI SVGA card w/2 MB
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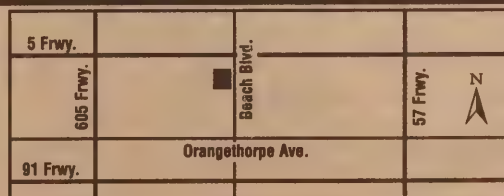
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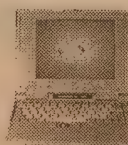
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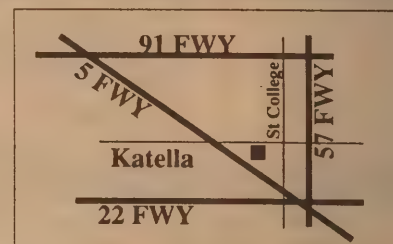
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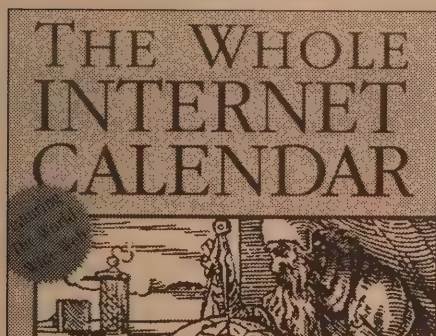


1995 Holiday New Products

Fun And Games: The ^{Annual} 3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Product Announcements

Accessories The Whole Internet Calendar



For net surfers and novices alike, The Whole Internet Calendar offers 365 adventures in cyberspace drawn from the best-seller *The Whole Internet User's Guide and Catalog*. This page-a-day calendar easily fits on your desk, measuring 5" x 5.25", is made from recycled paper, and rests on a plastic backer. (\$8.95) Workman Publishing, 708 Broadway, New York, NY 10003. (212)254-5900.

Polka-Disc Labels

A polka-dot pattern of adhesive on the back makes Polka-disc labels easy to remove from 3.5" disks. The adhesive dots are recessed on the label edge that aligns with the diskette edge. Diskette users can begin label removal by drawing a finger along the diskette edge. The label then peels off easily. For the newest version of

Polka-disc, the back flap was eliminated to make label removal even easier. One sample customized business card packet of ten Polka-disc labels can be ordered by sending \$1 check or money order to Polka Dot Products. Polka Dot Products, Inc., 4232 Colfax Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55409. (612)824-1760.

Laptop Desk

The Laptop Desk offers an ergonomic, adjustable desk designed specifically for users of laptop, notebook, and portable computers, whether they are students, business people, or those who use wheelchairs. It features a halogen-lighted, adjustable copy holder; two organizer shelves for books and papers; and a printer shelf that can support printers up to 25lbs. (the weight of an HP LaserJet IIIP



printer). Under the printer shelf is an enclosed cable compartment equipped with a surge-protected AC power strip for organizing power cables and hiding bulky power transformers. The black laminate

desk can be adjusted to the right height for different tasks, and is reversible for right- or left-handed access. The table holding the laptop is adjustable up to 45 degrees on both sides. (\$176) American Business Concepts, Inc., 4400 Sunbelt Dr., Dallas, TX 75248-1892. 1-800-877-4797.

Media Box Storage System

The Media Box Storage System provides an individual, custom-sized box for whatever data-keeping media are being used—3.5" diskettes, 5.25" floppies, CD-ROMs, 4mm DAT tapes, data cartridges, Zip disks, Bernoulli cartridges, and magnetic optical cartridges. Designed by Tinz, in Germany, a designer dedicated to high-tech functional concepts, each box is sized to permit stacking and interlocking in an orderly arrangement. Drawers open and slide smoothly on durable precision guides and close with a click-shut positive lock feature for ease of use, security, and keeping out dust. Antiskid rubber feet secure units to surfaces without scratching. (Prices range from \$20 to \$36.50) POSSO Corp., 200 Holdsworth Dr., PO Box 727, Kerrville, TX 78029-0727. 1-800-343-8140.

InkJet Refill Starter Kit

The Parana 766 Starter Kit for refilling HP 5162A high-capacity inkjet cartridges contains a reusable refill station and one refill. This self-contained station is unbreakable, contains no moving parts, doubles as a

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- *2X CD-ROM Drive
- *16-bit Stereo Sound Card
- *40Watts Stereo Speakers
- *19 Popular Bundled CD Titles
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- *High Speed Serial / Parallel Port
- *104-Key **Win 95' Keyboard**
- *Hi-Resolution Mouse
- *Mini Tower Case, 5 Drive Bays
- *Microsoft Windows 95'

486DX2-66	\$1099
486DX4-100	\$1149
486DX4-120	\$1199
Pentium-75	\$1299
Pentium-100	\$1499

MaxMedia

- *Intel Triton, Plug & Play BIOS
- *256K Cache (Pipeline Burst+\$89)
- *8MB RAM (EDO RAM+\$45)
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- ***850MB** Enhanced IDE Hard Drive
- *Enhanced PCI IDE HD Controller
- *PCI Graphics Accelerator w/1MB
- ***15" Digital** 1280x1024 .28 Monitor
- *4X CD-ROM Drive
- *Sound Blaster 16 Sound Card
- *120Watts Stereo Speakers
- *19 Popular Bundled CD Titles
- ***14,400 Fax Modem**
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- *104-Key **Win95' Keyboard**
- *Hi-Resolution Mouse
- *Mini Tower Case, 5 Drive Bays
- *Microsoft Windows 95'

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Pentium-90	\$1599
Pentium-100	\$1649
Pentium-120	\$1699
Pentium-133	\$1899

OfficeMedia

- *Intel Triton, Plug & Play BIOS
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- *1.44MB Floppy Drive
- ***1.08GB Mode4** IDE Hard Drive
- *Enhanced PCI IDE HD Controller
- *PCI Graphics Accelerator w/1MB
- ***15" Digital** 1280x1024 .28 Monitor
- *4X CD-ROM (600KB/Sec) Drive
- *Sound Blaster 16 Sound Card
- *120Watts Stereo Speakers
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Schedule, Access, Bookshelf
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- *High Speed Serial / Parallel Port
- ***Win95' 104 Keyboard**, Hi-Res Mouse
- *Medium Tower Case, 8 Drive Bays
- *Microsoft Windows 95'

Pentium-75	\$1799
Pentium-90	\$1899
Pentium-100	\$1949
Pentium-120	\$1999
Pentium-133	\$2199

PowerMedia

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- *1.44MB Floppy Drive
- ***1.08GB Mode4** IDE Hard Drive
- *Enhanced PCI IDE HD Controller
- *Diamond **Stealth64 Video** w/2MB
MPEG, CD-i, Cinepak Playback
- *17" **Princeton** 1280x1024 .28 Monitor
- *4X CD-ROM (600KB/Sec) Drive
- *Sound Blaster 16 Sound Card
- *120Watts Stereo Speakers
- *19 Popular Bundled CD Titles
- ***14,400 Fax Modem**
- *High Speed Serial / Parallel Port
- *104-Key **Win95' Keyboard**
- *Hi-Resolution Mouse
- *Full Tower Case, 10 Drive Bays
- *Microsoft Windows 95'

Pentium-75	\$2149
Pentium-90	\$2249
Pentium-100	\$2299
Pentium-120	\$2349
Pentium-133	\$2549

MegaMedia

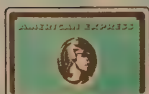
- *Intel Triton, Plug & Play BIOS
- *256K Cache (Pipeline Burst+\$89)
- *16MB RAM (EDO RAM+\$70)
- *1.44MB Floppy Drive
- ***1.08GB Mode4** IDE Hard Drive
- *Enhanced PCI IDE HD Controller
- *Diamond **Stealth64 Video** w/2MB
MPEG, CD-i, Cinepak Playback
- *17" **MAG DX-17** 1280x1024 .26 Monitor
- ***6X** CD-ROM (900KB/Sec) Drive
- ***Sound Blaster 32** Sound Card
- *120Watts Stereo Speakers
- *19 Popular Bundled CD Titles
- ***14,400 Fax Modem**
- *High Speed Serial / Parallel Port
- *104-Key **Win95' Keyboard**
- *Hi-Resolution Mouse
- *Full Tower Case, 10 Drive Bays
- *Microsoft Windows 95'

Pentium-75	\$2399
Pentium-90	\$2499
Pentium-100	\$2549
Pentium-120	\$2599
Pentium-133	\$2799

ThunderMedia

- *Intel Triton, Plug & Play BIOS
- ***256K Pipeline Burst** Cache
- ***16MB Fast EDO** RAM
- *1.44MB Floppy Drive
- ***1.6GB Mode4** IDE Hard Drive
- *Enhanced PCI IDE HD Controller
- *Diamond **Stealth64 Video** w/2MB
MPEG, CD-i, Cinepak Playback
- *17" **MAG DX-17** 1280x1024 .26 Monitor
- ***8X** CD-ROM (1.2MB/Sec) Drive
- ***Sound Blaster 32** Sound Card
- *120Watts Stereo Speakers
- *19 Popular Bundled CD Titles
- ***28,800 V34 Fax Modem**
- *High Speed Serial / Parallel Port
- ***Fujitsu Win'95 104 Keyboard**
- *Hi-Resolution Mouse
- *Full Tower Case, 10 Drive Bays
- *Microsoft Windows 95'

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- *Enhanced PCI IDE HD Controller
- *Diamond **Stealth64 Video** w/1MB MPEG, CD-i, Cinepak Playback
- *15" **Digital** 1280x1024 .28 Monitor
- *4X CD-ROM (600KB/Sec) Drive
- *Sound Blaster 16 Sound Card
- *120Watts Stereo Speakers
- *19 Popular Bundled CD Titles
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- *High Speed Serial / Parallel Port
- *104-Key **Win95' Keyboard**
- *Hi-Resolution Mouse
- *Medium Tower Case, 8 Drive Bays
- *MicroSoft Windows 95'

Winstone 95'

EDO RAM, Pipelined Cache	205
Regular RAM, Pipelined Cache	196
EDO RAM, Regular Cache	178
Regular RAM, Regular Cache	169

Pentium-75	\$1849
Pentium-90	\$1949
Pentium-100	\$1999
Pentium-120	\$2049
Pentium-133	\$2249

SuperMedia

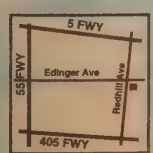
- *Intel Triton, Plug & Play BIOS
- *256K **Pipeline Burst** Cache
- *32MB **Fast EDO** RAM
- *1.44MB Floppy Drive
- *4.2GB **Fast & Wide** SCSI Hard Drive
- *Adaptec 2940W Fast & Wide SCSI Card
- *Matrox **Millennium 2MB WRAM**
- 3-D Graphics, Full Motion MPEG
- *17" **MAG DX-17** 1280x1024 .26 Monitor
- *NEC 6X **SCSI-2** CD-ROM Drive
- *Sound Blaster **AWE32** Card
- *120Watts Stereo Speakers
- *19 Popular Bundled CD Titles
- *28,800 **V.34 Fax Modem**
- *High Speed Serial / Parallel Port
- *Fujitsu **Win'95 104 Keyboard**
- *Hi-Resolution Mouse
- *Full Tower Case, 10 Drive Bays
- *MicroSoft Windows 95'

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Pentium-90	\$4599
Pentium-100	\$4649
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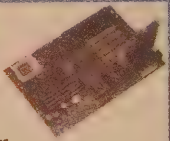


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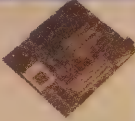
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- *On Board Sound Blaster 16
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- *High Speed I/O

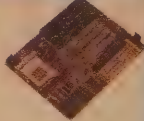
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Zappa

- *256K Cache
- *Enhanced IDE Support
- *High Speed I/O
- *5 Year Mfg Warranty

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intel
Triton
256K Pipelined Burst

- *256K Pipelined Burst Cache
- *Plug & Play, Flash BIOS
- *Enhanced IDE Support
- *High Speed I/O

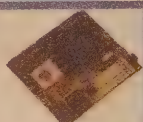
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486VLB Motherboard
AMD 486DX4-120 CPU

- *256K Cache
- *30/72 Pin Memory

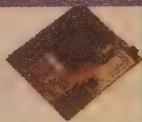
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486 VLB Motherboard
AMD 486DX2-66 CPU

- *256K Cache
- *30 / 72 Pin Memory

\$195



486 PCI Motherboard
AMD 486DX4-120 CPU

- *256K Cache
- *Enhanced IDE Controller
- *High Speed I/O

Processor

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Pentium 120	\$359
Pentium 100	\$299
Pentium 90	\$249
Pentium 75	\$159
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AMD 486DX4-100	\$ 89
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- *Sound Blaster Vibra 16
- *19 Bundled CD Titles
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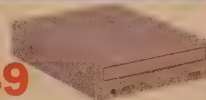
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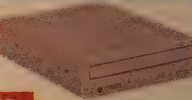


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Creative 6X IDE **\$189**
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*28.8K V.34

*14.4K V.42

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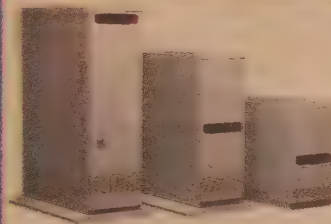
Stealth64 Video

2MB / 2MB / 4MB

DRAM VRAM VRAM

*MPEG Playback Video

*1280 x 1024 Resolution



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Thunder Series

Full Tower **\$89**
10 Drive Bays, 230W PS

Mid Tower **\$69**
8 Drive Bays, 230W PS

Mini Tower **\$49**
5 Drive Bays, 230W PS

CASES

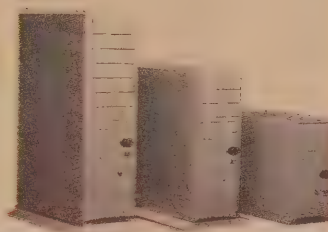
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Full Tower **\$69**
10 Drive Bays, 230W PS

Mid Tower **\$55**
8 Drive Bays, 230W PS

Super Tower **\$45**
7 Drive Bays, 230W PS

Mini Tower **\$35**
5 Drive Bays, 230W PS



\$609/\$329

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**MAG Monitor
DX-17 / DX-15**

*17" .26dp / 15" .28dp

*1280 x 1024 Resolution

*Digital Controlled

*3 Year Warranty

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2MB / 2MB / 4MB

DRAM VRAM VRAM

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*On Screen Control

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*Plug & Play, 120Hz Refresh

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4MB VRAM

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*Natural Wrist Position

*Soft, Tactile Key Action

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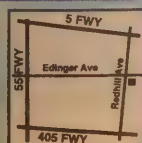
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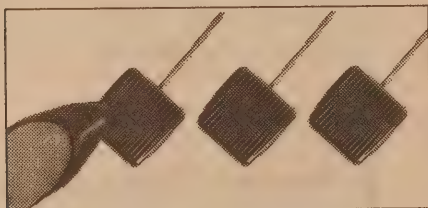
Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3 Holiday Gift Guide

New Products...

storage container, and promises "clean hands" while refilling ink cartridges. It operates by lining up blue arrows on the station, cartridge, and refill tank; snapping them together; then pulling a tab for the ink to flow from the refill tank directly into the cartridge without spillage. (\$24.95; for follow-up use, the Parana 767 twin-pack of refill tanks is also available for \$24.95) Parana Supplies Corp., 3625 Del Amo Blvd., Suite 260, Torrance, CA 90503. (310)793-1325.

Step On It!

Step On It! computer control pedal is designed to relieve your fingers from the strain associated with heavy typing. Other applications include games and simulations as well as use by people with limited hand abilities. Three programmable



switches emulate Control, Shift, and Alt keys. Holding down the Control key with your toe, for example, makes it easier and smoother to type key combinations requiring this key. The pedal can also be programmed like a macro to type a common word or phrase (up to thirteen characters). It works with a 286 or higher PC running Windows or OS/2. (\$99) Bilbo Innovations, Inc., 1290 Oakmead Pkwy., #18, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. 1-800-203-0092. URL: <http://www.bilbo.com/tae/bilbo/bilbo.html>.

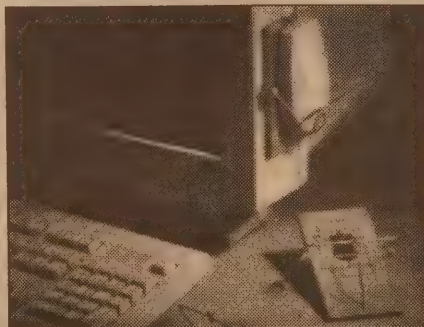
Interactor Virtual Reality Cushion

When placed on a couch or chair and leaned against, the Interactor Cushion adds the sensation of feeling to the sights and sounds of CD-ROMs, television, videos, music, and computer/video games. The lightweight cushion uses Aura's patented electromagnetic actuator technology developed as an outgrowth of work performed by Aura for the US military. The



Interactor plugs into virtually any audio output, triggering an Aura magnetic actuator within the soft cushion's center, which in turn actively converts bass sound waves into body-pulsing vibrations synchronized with the soundtrack. Controls allow the output to be fine-tuned from a feather touch to intense resonance and can be adjusted for natural fidelity and feel for music/video inputs. The Interactor Cushion comes complete with its own amplifier and set of adapters to plug into a variety of systems including multimedia computers; televisions; VCRs; CD players; stereos; and 16-, 32-, and 64-bit video game systems. (\$99) Aura Systems, Inc., 2335 Alaska Ave., El Segundo, CA 90245. 1-800-909-AURA.

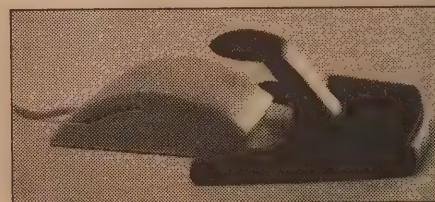
MouseTrap Mouse Holder



The MouseTrap is a mouse holder that mimics the appearance of a traditional

mousetrap. It attaches to the side of any computer with the included self-adhesive pad. Once hung, it cradles your mouse securely, offering a convenient way to get the mouse off your desk when jotting notes or performing other noncomputer tasks. It features a 5" x 2 5/8" natural pine base. A U-shaped bale of antiqued-brass wire projects from the base, connecting to the sides with spring-like coils. A brass hook extends from the bottom of the base to meet the wire bale and hold it in place. (\$6.99) Computer Expressions, Inc., 4200 Mitchell St., Philadelphia, PA 19128. (215)487-7728.

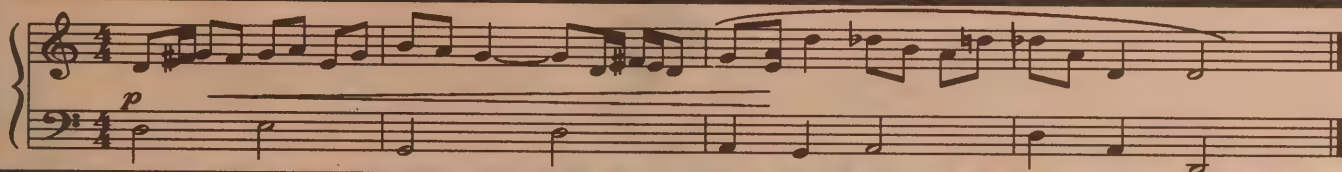
Ergowrist



Ergowrist is an ergonomic device to support the user's hand while using a mouse. It supports the hand in a natural, restful posture with an adjustable pad that fits under the palm and a padded rest for the wrist. Rather than moving your wrist, the Ergowrist slides easily under the weight of your hand, allowing your whole arm to move the mouse short and long distances. In addition, it allows your fingers to control the mouse accurately for small movements. It fits either hand, works on any surface a mouse works on, is compatible with almost all mice, and needs very little space in which to work. (\$9.95) ErgoLink Inc., 1111 Homer St., Suite 203, Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 2Y1. (604)682-4145.

CDR-50 CD-ROM Storage

Case Logic's CDR-50 takes advantage of its ProFile protective CD sleeve system, originally developed for music CDs to protect and organize fifty CD-ROMs in 75% less space than normally required. The unit is designed to be aesthetically compatible with computers, and stores up to fifty CD-



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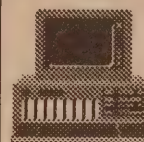
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New Products...

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Creek Pkwy., Longmont, CO 80503. 1-800-447-4848.

Multimedia Soundpad

The Multimedia Soundpad is a PC-compatible control accessory that operates with the simplicity of a TV remote control device to control audio mixing and CD audio functions of multimedia PCs. It is a twenty-one-button keypad roughly the size of a credit card with buttons for volume; tone; balance; and the relative output volume levels of digitized voice (Wave), background music (MIDI), microphone, CD, and an auxiliary line input source. It also includes mute and CD-ROM eject controls and five mixer memory settings. The Multimedia Soundpad connects to PCs by means of a serial DB9 plug and operates at any standard COM address without the use of IRQs. (\$39.95) Futuretouch, 2030 E. Fourth St., #152, Santa Ana, CA 92705. (714)558-6824.

ActionCall

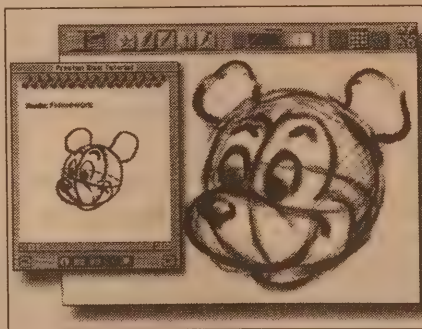
ActionCall Computer Help Cards are a way for computer users to have twenty-four-hour, toll-free access to worldwide technical support for virtually every standard PC and Macintosh program in business use today. With the ActionCall card, users call an 800 number, provide their Personal PIN Number, and are immediately connected to a technical support professional. Available payment plans range from a per call charge to unlimited calls to a corporate multiuser plan and for periods of

three months, six months, or one year. (\$19.95 per call; \$69.95 for three months, \$129.95 for six months, or \$189.95 for a year of unlimited calls; or \$16.50 per month per authorized user for the multi-user corporate card) ActionCall, 10900 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90024. (714)727-2460.

CD-ROM Software

Dabbler 2

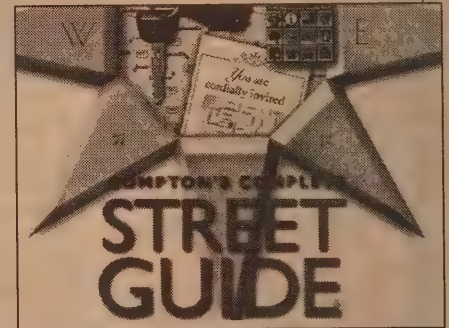
Version 2.0 offers a major upgrade to this easy-to-use paint-and-draw application designed for users of all ages, but appealing most strongly to children eight years and older and young adults. The CD includes Windows 3.1, Windows 95-native, Macintosh, and Power Macintosh versions. Dabbler's straightforward interface helps educators, hobbyists, children, and adults create original art quickly. New electronic tutors include lessons based on Walter Foster's classic learn-how-to-draw books as well as an online users guide. Other new features include one of the first programs



for the home to offer flipbook animation; dozens of Natural-Media paint and draw tools and special effects that respond like traditional art materials; a tracing paper feature that allows you to trace scanned photos or other images; and one hundred professional stock photographs from PhotoDisc, more than three hundred stencils, over one hundred paper textures, and

three image font libraries. (\$69) Fractal Design Corp., PO Box 2380, Aptos, CA 95001. (408)688-8836.

Compton's Complete Street Guide



This CD helps families create customized maps for providing directions to parties and business destinations, planning vacations, and designing maps for road trips. Beyond just finding a road to a destination on the computer, Compton's Complete Street Guide lets you locate a street or area, highlight a chosen route, and add visual "stamps" to generate easy-to-follow printed maps. The more than one hundred stamps include billboards, traffic lights, and houses. The electronic atlas contains millions of street segments, viewable at ten levels of magnification ranging from the entire US down to city neighborhoods. You can search for any state, city, county, zip code, street, or road in the US, including Alaska and Hawaii. Maps can be printed in color or black and white. They can be copied to other Windows programs and incorporated into documents used for charting family getaways or business trips. (\$59.95) Compton's New Media, Inc., 2320 Camino Vida Roble, Carlsbad, CA 92009-1504. (619)929-2500.

Holiday Activity Fun Pack

The Holiday Activity Fun Pack, a new Macintosh/Windows hybrid CD-ROM packed full of holiday fun, is designed for children ages three and up. Kids will be

continued on page 134



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CPU MEMORY	MONITORS	FLOPPY DRIVES	CASES	SPEAKERS
AMD 486DX2-66MHz (3.3V) 65 AMD 486DX2-66MHz (3.3V) 105 AMD 486DX4-100MHz (3.3V) 105 AMD 486DX4-120MHz (3.3V) 149 Intel 486DX2-66MHz 149 Intel Pentium 75MHz (3.3V) 219 Intel Pentium 90MHz (3.3V) 269 Intel Pentium 100MHz (3.3V) 299 Intel Pentium 120MHz (3.3V) 399 Intel Pentium 133MHz (3.3V) 599 486 CPU Cooling Fan 9 Pentium CPU Cooling Fan 15 Memory - All types CALL	Infiniti 15" Flat SVGA NI 0.28/Digital 299 MAG DX-15F 15" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 349 MAG DX-17F 17" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 629 MAG MXP 17" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 679 NAT Occo 14" SVGA NI 0.28/Full Screen 219 Pacom 14" SVGA NI 0.28/Full Screen 219 Percomp 15" Flat SVGA NI 0.28/Digital 219 Percomp 15" Flat SVGA NI 0.28/Digital 219 Sanyo 15.1" Flat SVGA NI 0.28/Digital 319 Sony 15.1" Flat SVGA NI 0.28/Digital 799 Sony 17.1" Flat SVGA NI 0.28/Digital 329 Viewsonic 17GS 17" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 579 Viewsonic 17GS 17" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 499 Viewsonic 17GS 17" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 899 Viewsonic 17GS 17" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 1,099 Viewsonic 17GS 17" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 749 Viewsonic 20G 20" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 829 Viewsonic 20G 20" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 899 Viewsonic 21FS 21" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 1,499 Viewsonic 21FS 21" Flat NI 0.28/Digital 1,799	Mitsumi 5.25" 1.2MB 42 Mitsumi 5.25" 1.44MB 29 Teac 5.25" 1.44MB 45 Teac 5.25" 1.44MB 55 Teac Dual 5.25" 1.44MB 89	Mini Tower Case 230W UL PS (5 Drive Bays) 39 Medium Tower Case 230W UL PS (8 Drive Bays) 59 Full Tower Case 250W UL PS (10 Drive Bays) 79 Desktop Case 210W UL PS (5 Drive Bays) 59	10 Watt Amplified 9 60 Watt Power Amplified 29 115 Watt Super Bass Power Amplified 59 Sub/Woof Bass System for Multimedia 79
VLB GRAPHICS CARDS	IDE CONTROLLERS	CD-ROM DRIVES	TAPE BACKUPS	SOFTWARE
ATI mach64 VLB 1M 129 ATI mach64 VLB 2M 179 ATI mach64 VLB 2M VRAM 279 Diamond Stealth 64 VLB 1M 199 Diamond Stealth 64 VLB 2M 199 Circ Logic 5429 VLB SVGA 1M 59 Trident 9440 VLB2 SVGA 1M 59	IDE VIO (25/P) 16 Bit 13 IDE VIO (25/P) 16 Bit w/Mode 3 & 16550 Serial 29 VLB IDE VIO (25/P) 16 Bit 25 VLB IDE VIO (25/P) 16 Bit w/Mode 3 & 16550 Serial 29 VLB IDE VIO (25/P) 16 Bit w/Mode 3 & 16550 Serial 29 PCI IDE VIO (25/P) 16 Bit 49 PCI IDE VIO (25/P) 16 Bit w/Mode 3 & 16550 Serial 49	NEC 24x24x24 (250ms) 79 Hitachi 4X IDE (200ms - 600Kb/s) 129 Panasonic 4X IDE (200ms - 600Kb/s) 129 Toshiba 5.02B 4X IDE (195ms - 600Kb/s) 149 Toshiba 3601B 4X SCSI-2 (150ms - 600Kb/s) 299 Teac/Aptech 6X EIDE (140ms - 900Kb/s) 229 NEC CDR-512 6X SCSI-2 (150ms - 900Kb/s) 329	IOmega 400 420MB Internal 119 IOmega Travan 800MB Internal 149 ColoRedo 350MB Internal 129 ColoRedo 1-1000 Travan 800MB Internal 169 ColoRedo 1-1400 Travan 1200MB Internal 249	Microsoft DOS 6.22/Windows for Workgroups 3.11 89 Microsoft Windows 95 (for systems only) 89 Microsoft Windows 95 Upgrade Version 89 Microsoft Office Standard 95 Upgrade Version 329 Microsoft Office Professional 95 Upgrade Version 329 Microsoft Home Suite (for systems or kits only) 169 Novell Perfect Office Suite (for systems only) 99
PCI GRAPHICS CARDS	SCSI CONTROLLERS	SOUND CARDS	SCANNERS	JOYSTICKS/DIGITIZERS
ATI mach64 PCI 1M 129 ATI mach64 PCI 2M 179 ATI mach64 PCI 2M VRAM 279 ATI mach64 PCI 4M VRAM 449 Diamond Stealth 64 PCI Video 1M 139 Diamond Stealth 64 PCI Video 2M 199 Diamond Stealth 64 PCI Video 2M VRAM 279 Diamond Stealth 64 PCI Video 4M VRAM 449 Trident 9440 PCI SVGA 1M 79	PCI NCR Fast SCSI-2 Controller 79 PCI NCR Fast Wide SCSI-3 Controller 149 Adaptec 1510 SCSI Host Adapter for CD-ROM 69 Adaptec 1522BK SCSI 199 Adaptec 1542BK SCSI 199 Adaptec 2940 PCI Fast SCSI-2 199 Adaptec 2940W PCI Wide SCSI-3 229	Media Vision 16 SCSI-2 59 Sound Blaster 16 IDE 89 Sound Blaster 16 SCSI 89 Sound Blaster 32 WaveTable 169 Sound Blaster AWE32 Full Version 269	Logitech ScanMan 22 32-grey Hand-held Scanner 129 Logitech ScanMan 250 250-grey Hand-held Scanner 159 A-4 WinScan Color Hand-held Color Scanner 179 Hewlett-Packard ScanJet 3p 84W Desktop Scanner 399 Hewlett-Packard ScanJet 3x Color Desktop Scanner 929	A-4 Digitizing Tablet 12 x 12 199 A-4 Joystick 15 Logitech WingMan Flight Sim Joystick 59 CH Products Mach II Joystick 89 CH Products Mach IV Joystick 169 GamePad 269

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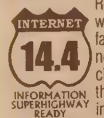


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- 14" Super VGA Non-Interlaced Monitor (0.28)
- 2 Hi-Speed 16550 UART Serial Ports
- ECP/EPP Enhanced Parallel Port
- Deluxe Mini Tower Case/230W PS
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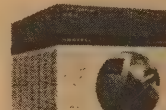
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- Grolier's 1995 Multimedia Encyclopedia
- BitWare fax modem software for Windows
- Mosaic Internet Browser
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With Intel's revolutionary Triton chipset, you get 20%-70% more speed than standard Pentium chipsets giving you added performance from the very same Pentium processor thanks to a more integrated design, built-in PCI bus-mastering IDE, support for Mode 4 Enhanced IDE hard drives, support for new higher-bandwidth EDO memory and SynchroBurst Cache. And because only Envision utilizes all the Triton's features, our Triton Systems are faster than the competition's Triton Systems (see chart).

64-bit Pentium Processor

At the heart of every Envision PowerStation is Intel's advanced 64-bit Pentium Processor giving you superfast computing to handle even the most power hungry user. So whether you do technical drawings, graphics design or just want to play the hottest new game, Envision PowerStations have the power you need to blaze!

New SynchroBurst Cache Architecture

Over the past few years, CPUs have dramatically increased in speed and performance. Unfortunately, memory technology has stood still over those years creating bottlenecks and slowing overall performance of computers. All that will change with Envision's new SynchroBurst cache architecture which provides a synchronous data channel allowing twice as much data to flow from CPU to memory alleviating bottlenecks while letting your computer operate at peak performance. SynchroBurst is available as an option on all Triton PowerStations

EDO (Extended Data Output) Memory

Get more performance with EDO memory which provides double the bandwidth between your CPU & memory (100MB/s vs. 200MB/s) giving you up to another 11% more performance. EDO is available on all Triton Systems as an upgrade option.

Standard Pentium	17% Slower	Pentium System Comparison
Competitor's Triton Pentium w/Mode 3 Enh IDE	Base System	Envision's Tritons are faster than other Tritons!
Envision Triton Pentium w/Mode 4 Enh IDE	12% Faster	
Envision Triton Pentium w/Mode 4 Enh IDE & EDO Memory	25% Faster	
Envision Triton Pentium w/Mode 4 Enh IDE, EDO Memory & SynchroBurst Cache	41% Faster	

Tested with Pentium 100, 16MB RAM, 1.2GB IDE Hard Drive & ATI mach64 2M SVGA

Bus Mastering Mode 4 Enhanced IDE

With Triton, you get Mode 4 Enhanced IDE hard drives with even faster hard drive data transfer rates of 16.67MB/s. Combine that with the new built-in bus-mastering PCI IDE interface, which takes the load of handling hard drive data transfer operations off the CPU, and you get performance that's up to twice as fast Mode 3 hard drives and five times faster than standard IDE hard drives.

Award Winning 64-bit Accelerators

All Envision Pentium systems (except Pentium) incorporate award winning 64-bit graphics accelerators from ATI or Diamond for maximum graphics power. The mach64, winner of PC Magazine's Editor's Choice, offers unmatched video performance plus motion video acceleration to make your graphics and movie clips fly across your screen!

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Pentium 90

\$2,599

Pentium 100

\$2,799

Pentium 120

\$2,999

Pentium 133

MULTIMEDIA SYSTEM OPTIONS

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Multimedia systems come with CD-ROM, 16-bit Stereo Sound Card, Grolier's Encyclopedia, U.S. Atlas, World Atlas, ChessMaster 4000, Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing and pair of speakers

Triton Eliminator

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\$3,469

Pentium 90

\$3,499

Pentium 100

\$3,699

Pentium 120

\$3,899

Pentium 133

MULTIMEDIA SYSTEM OPTIONS

CD-ROM Type	P90	P100	P120	P133
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6X IDE CD-ROM	\$3,769	\$3,799	\$3,999	\$4,199
6X SCSI CD-ROM	\$3,869	\$3,899	\$4,099	\$4,299

Multimedia systems come with CD-ROM, 16-bit Stereo Sound Card, Grolier's Encyclopedia, U.S. Atlas, World Atlas, ChessMaster 4000, Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing and pair of speakers

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New Products... continued from page 128

introduced to Blizzard the Snowman, a



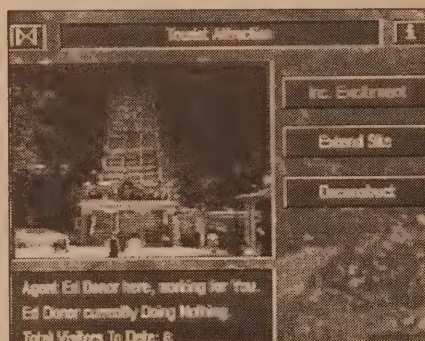
wild and wacky snowman who loves to play games. The Masterpiece Paintbox contains more than twenty holiday ClickArt images that kids can paint on-screen or print out to make coloring book pages. The Make a Snowman's Face game lets kids use their talents to create over one thousand snowman fun faces using household items, such as lightbulbs, Life Savers, and more. Unwrap the Presents features beautiful holiday gifts and challenges children's memory and matching skills by having them match pictures and sounds. The Decorate the Tree game is a replayable game that uses ornaments as stamps. (\$14.95) T/Maker Co., 1390 Villa St., Mountain View, CA 94041. 1-800-9-TMAKER.

The Ultimate Einstein

Based on the life and work of the world-renowned physicist, *The Ultimate Einstein* features an interactive history of Einstein's life, with full-motion video and audio clips; a virtual encounter in which an actor's virtual reality simulation of Einstein responds to queries on a variety of subjects; a simulation playhouse that lets users participate in a series of experiments to demonstrate Einstein's theories; and a fully searchable library, including the complete text of Ronald W. Clark's biography *Einstein: The Life and Times*. It also features links to related World Wide Web sites. This CD-ROM is ideal for Einstein fans and scientists twelve years and older. Macintosh and PC versions available. (\$49.95) Byron Preiss Multimedia Company, Inc., 24 W. 25th St., New York, NY 10010. (212)989-6252.

Simisle

Simisle combines video and sound effects with simulation technology to immerse players in one of the world's most exotic locales—a rainforest. With aid from a panel of special agents, Simisle challenges players to manage a body of tropical islands, each abundant with missions and scenarios that must be successfully com



pleted for the island's economic and ecological survival. The tropical surroundings camouflage the dilemmas players will face as the game unfolds—from oil tanker leaks



and fighting illegal drug producers to building wildlife preserves and fighting ivory poachers. Lush video footage is provided by *Network Earth*, TBS's award-winning environmental series produced by Turner Original Productions. (\$39.95, CD-ROM for DOS) Maxis Corp., 2 Theatre Square, Orinda, CA 94563. 1-800-526-2947.

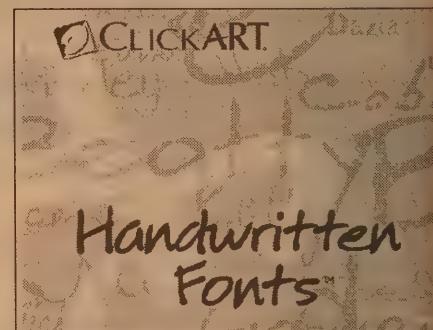
The Internet:

A Knowledge Odyssey

This Windows CD-ROM is an educational

tool and reference source for new and experienced users of the Internet, complete with access software and multimedia simulation of how to best use popular sites. Ten tours explain the history, technology, and future of the Internet, and various access methods and how to use them—including the Web, FTP, and terminal emulation. Different editions—such as the Basic Edition, For the Home, For Business, etc.—offer cross-sections of site and topical information tailored to each audience. Each edition also includes a seven-day trial package of the Instant InterRamp, featuring Chameleon access software, for people who have not yet accessed the Internet. (Basic Edition, \$49.95; Home Edition, \$39.95; Business Edition, \$59.95) MindQ Publishing, Inc., 8375 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, CA 22182. (703)938-3579.

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ClickArt Handwritten Fonts contains three hundred unique personalized fonts crafted using actual handwriting samples. As TrueType fonts they are fully scalable without giving you "jaggies" plus do not require a PostScript-capable printer. This font package allows you to use the speed and convenience of your computer and still take advantage of the warmth and appeal of personally written words. You can find the right font to fit any mood or message and you can even use your spell checker. A special offer is included so that anyone can create their own authentic Handwritten Font. (\$39.95, in Macintosh, Windows, and DOS) T/Maker Co., 1390 Villa St., Mountain View,

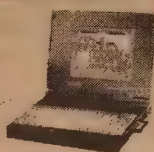
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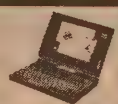


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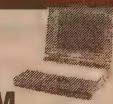


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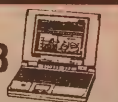


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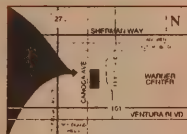
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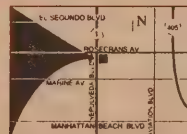
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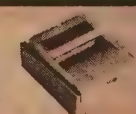
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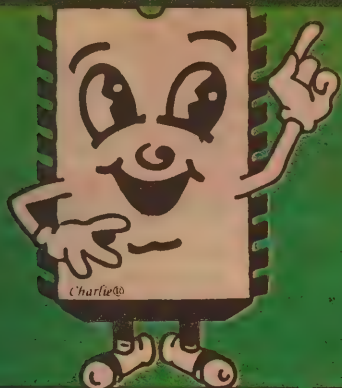
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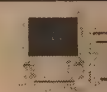
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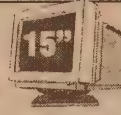
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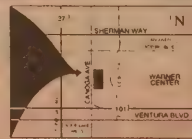
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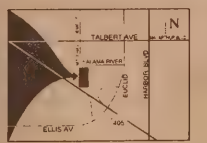
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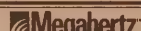
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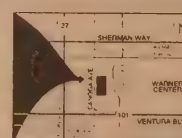
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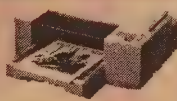


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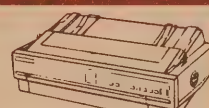


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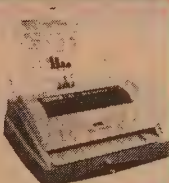
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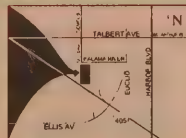
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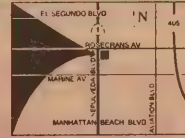
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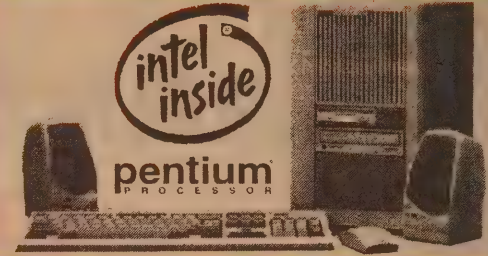
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Starion 910

**PENTIUM® 75MHz
PROCESSOR**

8MB/850MB COMPUTER

8MB RAM • 1.44 Floppy Drive • 850MB Hard Drive
Quad-speed CD-ROM • Speakers • Mouse • Windows® 95
14.4 Fax/Modem with answering machine
16-bit stereo sound • Windows® 95 Keyboard
CD Titles
Monitor Sold Separately
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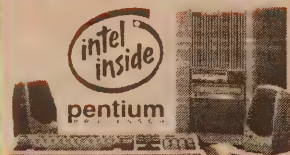
**WINDOWS® 95
INCLUDED!**

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Starion 930

**PENTIUM® 100MHz PROCESSOR
16MB/1.2GB COMPUTER**

Pentium® 100MHz Processor • 16MB RAM • 256KB Cache • 1.2GB Hard Drive
1.44MB Floppy Drive • Quad-speed CD-ROM • 16-bit Stereo sound • Speakers
14.4 Fax/Modem with Answering Machine
Windows® 95 Keyboard • Mouse
Windows® 95 • Monitor Sold Separately
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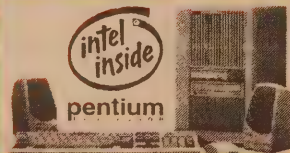
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**PENTIUM® 133MHz PROCESSOR
16MB/1.2GB COMPUTER**

Pentium® 133 Processor • 16MB RAM • 1.2GB Hard Drive • 256K Cache
64-bit video card • 28,800 Fax/Modem • Quad-speed CD-ROM
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Monitor Sold Separately
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INCLUDED!**

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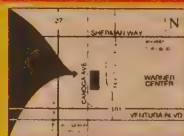
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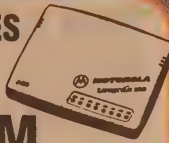
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MODEMS

MOTOROLA LIFESTYLE SERIES

28,800 BPS V.34

EXTERNAL FAX/MODEM



- Quality-unparalleled Motorola quality and reliability
- Easy-Plug and Play compatible
- Fast-send and receive faxes, orders and information at rates up to 115,200bps
- Efficient-error correction for clear faxes, reliable data every time
- Secure-password and callback security

\$198*

*After \$20 Mail-In Rebate. In-Store Price \$218

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28,800 BPS V.34

INTERNAL FAX/MODEM



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- Fast-send and receive faxes, orders and information at rates up to 115,200bps
- Efficient-error correction for clear faxes, reliable data every time
- Secure-password and callback security

\$178*

*After \$20 Mail-In Rebate. In-Store Price \$198

ZOOM

28.8 BPS INTERNAL FAX/MODEM WITH V.34 / V.FAST



Internal Halfcard • Compressed data throughput of 115,200 bps
V.42 bis, and MNP 5 Data Compression
V.42, MNP 2-4 and MNP10 error checking
Complete with Windows and MS DOS communication software
7 Year Warranty
Free Technical Support

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ACE 14,400 BPS FAX/MODEM VOICE MAIL/SOUND



THE ALL IN ONE BOARD FOR SOUND AND COMMUNICATIONS
V.Fast Upgradable • 16-Bit Stereo • DSP Software Upgradable

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V.42bis • MNP Hardware
V.32bis • Class II
Throughput up to 57,600 bps
Quicklink II for DOS and Windows

\$49⁹⁹

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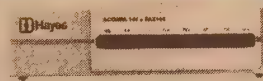


Free SmartCom Data and Fax Software
Group 3 Fax
V.42, V.42bis, MNP 2-5
08-01185
#1798197

\$98

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• V.42, V.42bis, MNP 2-5
• Cables included
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GROUP 3 Compatible • 16550 UART
BITCOM and BITFAX S/W • Supports up to Com 7 and IRQ-9
5 Year Warranty
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• 14,400bps data/14,400 bps fax
• 5 year limited warranty
• Automatically negotiates the best speed and protocol
• Send and receive faxes in the background
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• Automatically negotiates the best speed and protocol
• Send and receive faxes in the background
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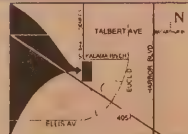
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Motorola's BitSURFER Pro ISDN modem is a high-speed terminal adapter that lets you access the power of ISDN for all you home and office communications. Four times faster than the fastest analog modem- 128,000 bps, Two analog device ports, Multilink PPP, Custom calling features, Simultaneous voice and data on a single ISDN line, Window 95 compatible.
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3Com

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USRobotics quality matched with Rockwell chips
New WinRPI software based V.42 and V.42BIS data compression
Universally compatible with all standards of ITU-T (formerly CCITT) Up to V.32 BIS
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Class 1 and 2
Supports up to Com 1-4 and IRQ-3,4,5
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SIIG

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Super High Speed V.32 BIS Protocol
Quick Link II communication Software
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New International Standard
28,800bps Data Modem
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Backward Compatible with V.Fast Class (V.FC) and Lower Speed Modems
Five Year Warranty
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New International Standard
28,800bps Data Modem
14,400bps Send/Receive Group 3 Fax
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High-Speed 16C550 UART Serial Card on board
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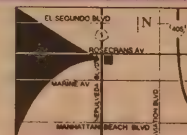
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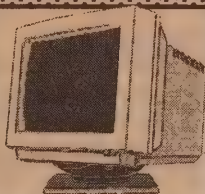
Non-Interlaced
1280 x 1024

**15" SUPER
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Non-Interlaced • .28 dpi • Flat Screen
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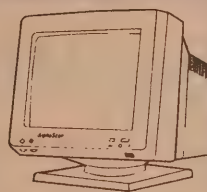
15" SUPER

**VGA 1280 X 1024
.28 MONITOR
NON-INTERLACED**

• Digital Control

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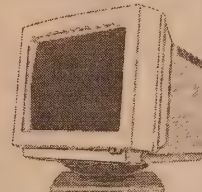
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15"

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NEC Tube • 1280 x 1024 • Non-Interlaced
Built-in Speakers with Amplifier • Headphone
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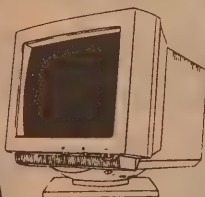
15" SVGA

**1280 X 1024
NON-INTERLACED**

• 28 mm dot pitch • Digital control • 30-64 KHz
• HI-Refresh

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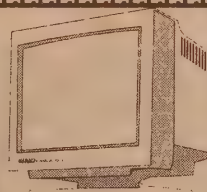
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**LARGE SCREEN
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• 1280 X 1024 • Non-Interlaced
• 28mm dot pitch • Digital Control • 30-66KHz

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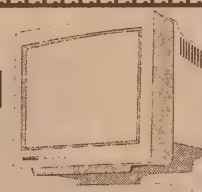
NANAO
Non-Interlaced
17"

**FLAT SCREEN
MONITOR**

1280 x 1024 • Flat Screen • .28mm dot pitch
Non-Interlaced

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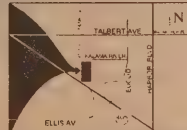
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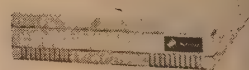


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HARD DRIVE
FOR MACINTOSH®**



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GIGABYTE
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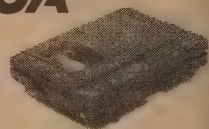
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External, removable Syquest hard drive
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270MB
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REMOVABLE
HARD DRIVE FOR
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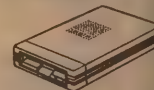


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• 230MB total formatted capacity
• Average Seek Time: 30ms typ
• SCSI 2 Interface
• 50 pin DB centronics (input)
• One Inch Height

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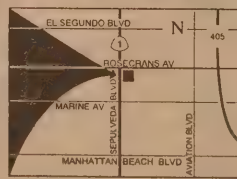
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- 3.5" X 1"
- 3 Year Warranty
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FAST SCSI-II HARD DRIVE**

- 11Msec Seek Time
- 512K Buffer
- 3.5" x 1" ht.
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**2GB SCSI-II
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- 12ms Seek Time
- 512K Buffer
- 250,000 MTBF
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**GRAND PRIX 4.28GB
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- 3.5 X 1.6 • 7200RPM
- 5 Year Warranty • 512K Buffer
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3.5" HH
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Includes: SCSI Case/Enclosure, SCSI Cable, Terminator, Formatting Software (MAC only), and Installation.

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• 129K Buffer

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120K Buffer
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HARD DRIVE

• 3.5" X 1" HT.

• <12msec

Seek Time

• 64K Buffer

• 2 year warranty

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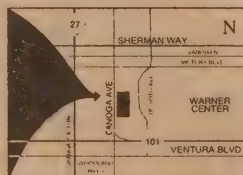
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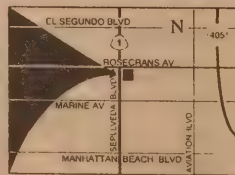
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- 4500 RPM
- 3.5" x 1"
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Quantum™ TRAILBLAZER 850MB FAST ATA HARD DRIVE

- 14ms Average Seek Time
- 4500RPM • 128K Buffer
- 3.5" x 1" • Enhanced IDE
- #2061979

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FUJITSU 1.05GB ATA-2 HARD DRIVE

- 3.5" x 1ht. • 10ms Seek Time
- 256K Buffer
- 5400 RPM
- 2 Year Warranty
- Enhanced IDE
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- Enhanced IDE
- 12ms Average Seek Time
- 5400RPM
- PIO Mode 4
- 128K Buffer • 3.5" x 1"
- 3 year warranty
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- 11ms Fast Seek Time
- 256K Buffer
- 3 Year Warranty
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Maxtor 1.62GB ENHANCED IDE HARD DRIVE

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- 128K Cache
- 4500 RPM
- 3.5" x 1"
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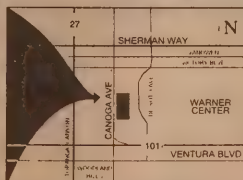
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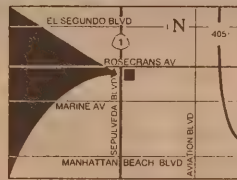
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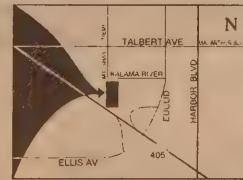
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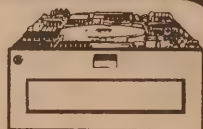
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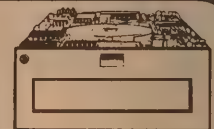
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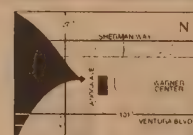
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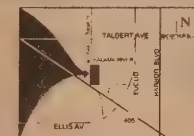
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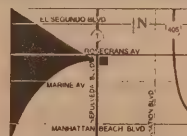
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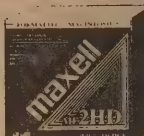
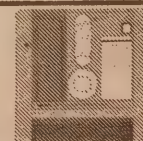
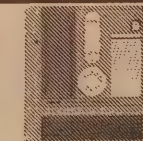
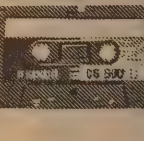
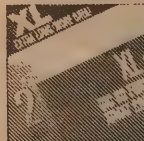


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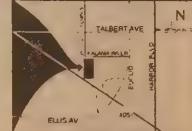
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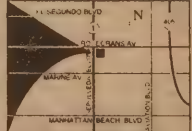
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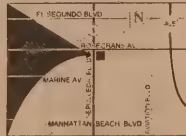
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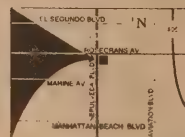
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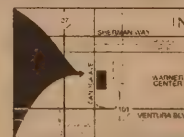
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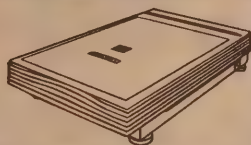
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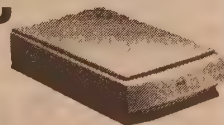
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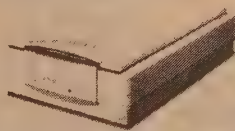
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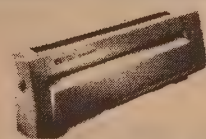


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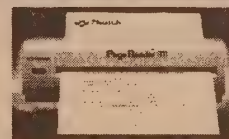
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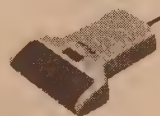
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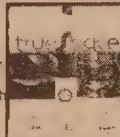


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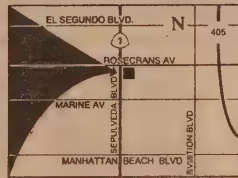
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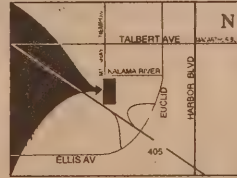
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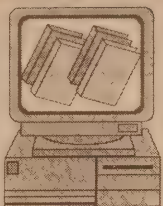
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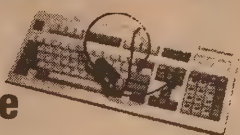
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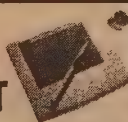


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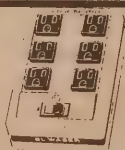
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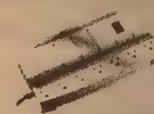
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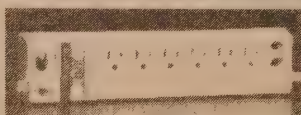


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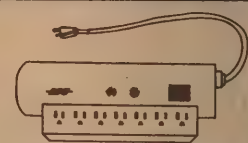
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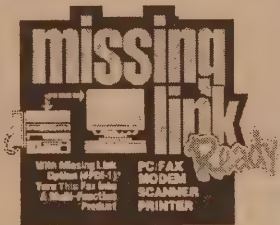
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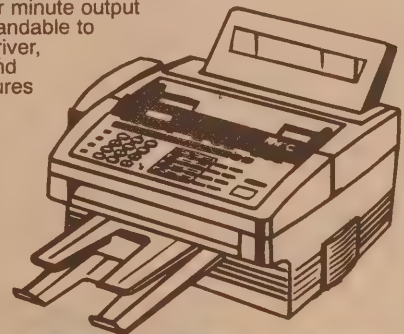
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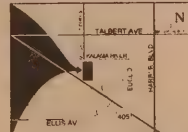
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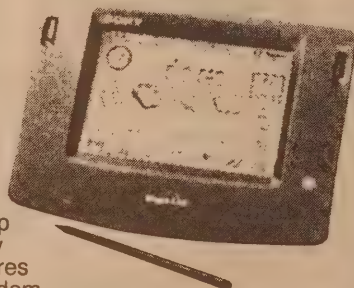
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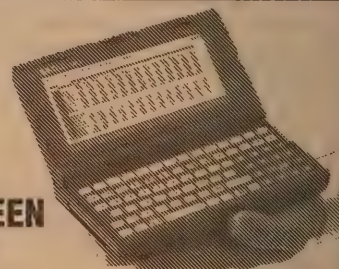
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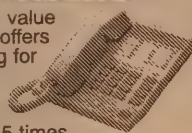


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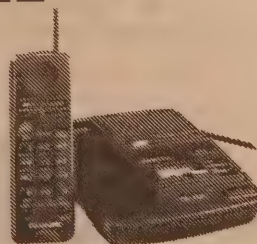


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MODEL KX-T9500
#1948839

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Panasonic's highly anticipated 900MHz cordless phone with all digital answering machine is finally here and it was well worth the wait! It's compact base and palm-sized handset make this the perfect addition to any home or office. Features include 10 number memory, 30 channel AutoScan, 3 personal mailboxes, 2-way/memo recording, intercom with 2-way paging, pager call, message scan (scans the first few seconds of each message), and much more. Now just...



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FAX MACHINES

Panasonic FAX MACHINE WITH PAPER CUTTER AND SPEAKERPHONE



Panasonic line of fully featured fax machines start with this compact model which includes 64 level grayscale, super thermal paper compatible, paper curl reduction, 164 paper roll capacity, 15 page document feeder, distinctive ring, delayed transmission, paper save mode, telephone directory with alpha-search, 12 station one-touch with 28 station speed dialing, and much more. All for just...

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#1944271

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Model KX-F750
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Panasonic PLAIN PAPER FAX MACHINE WHILE THEY LAST WITH 20 PAGE MEMORY



The ultimate plain paper fax from Panasonic features a jumbo LCD display, 70 page paper cassette, adjustable letter/legal tray, 32 level halftones, polling, activity reporting, 20 page document feeder, broadcasting to 128 locations, fax transfer, enlargement and reduction copier functions, fax/fel switch, 28-station one-touch dialer, 100-station speed dialer, telephone directory with alpha-search. Model KX-F3000 #1850626

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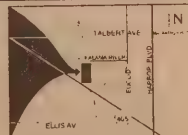
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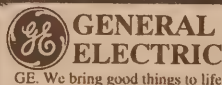
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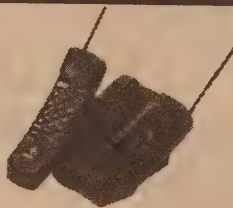


100 CHANNEL AUTO SCAN 900 MHz CORDLESS PHONE

By combining 100 channel auto scan (which allows the phone to lock-on to the channel that is getting the clearest signal) and 900 MHz crystal clear technology (for improved clarity and extended range), GE has developed the ultimate cordless phone! Other features include 10 number memory, page/find from base to handset, handset volume control, distinctive ring, and more. An excellent value at...

MODEL 2-9910 #1923425

\$149⁹⁹



uniden[®] 40 CHANNEL 900MHz CORDLESS PHONE

Uniden's latest 900MHz cordless phone gives you unparalleled range and performance along with premium features that include 40 channel selection, call monitor, 2-way/hands-free intercom, 10 number memory, mute, last number redial, flash, and much more, all for just....

MODEL EXP-601
#1965005

\$158⁹⁹



SONY. 40 CHANNEL 900 MHz CORDLESS SPEAKERPHONE

By combining 900MHz Enhanced Reception with a 40 Channel Auto Scan system, Sony has designed a cordless phone that not only provides clearer transmission with less noise and interference than conventional 46 to 49 MHz cordless phones, but also gives you enhanced channel selection resulting in greater flexibility if you encounter interference during a call. With 2-Way Paging/Intercom, Base Speakerphone, 3-Way Conversation, 20 number memory, last number redial, flash, and more. Sony has designed the perfect cordless phone for the home or office at only...

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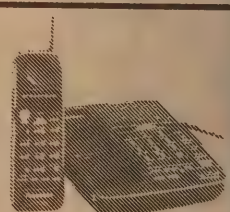


Panasonic 900MHz CORDLESS DUAL KEYPAD SPEAKERPHONE

This palm-sized 900MHz cordless phone comes equipped with dual keypad speakerphone for handsfree operation, 30 channel autoscan, intercom with 2-way paging, 20 number memory, a dual battery charging system, flash, hold, and last number redial. An excellent addition to any home or office at...

MODEL KX-T9520
#2068219

\$249⁹⁵



AT&T DIGITAL 900MHz DUAL KEYPAD CORDLESS SPEAKERPHONE

AT&T, the leader in digital telephone technology, once again leads the way into the future with the introduction of this 900MHz cordless phone. By operating at the 900 MHz frequency range rather than the conventional 46 to 49 MHz range, this AT&T cordless phone will provide clearer transmission with less noise and interference from other electronic devices, as well as extended range performance! Features include 10 number memory, mute, hold, flash, last number redial, one-way paging, out-of-range-indicator, digital voice encryption, and much more for only...

MODEL 9120 #1853261

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If you want premium performance in a cordless phone look no further than this digital 900MHz Cordless phone with 30 minute digital recording capability and 4 programmable voice mailboxes! Beside the extended range and improved clarity over traditional 49MHz cordless phones, this model also offers handset volume control, 10 number memory, low battery and out-of-range indicator, one-way paging, programmable ring, mute, flash, as well as, message skip and repeat (for immediate access to the next or previous message without having to wait for a tape to rewind or fast forward), and a whole lot more! An excellent value at...

MODEL 900i #2072021

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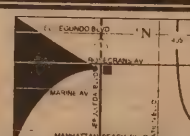
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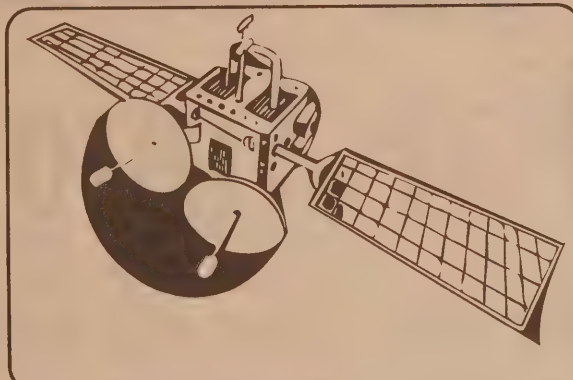


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MODEL DS-1120WR
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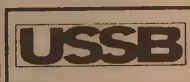
SONY DIGITAL SATELLITE SYSTEM (DDS) DISH AND RECEIVER

Sony's new DSS system is compatible with more than 175 channels of DirectTV and USSB programming. CD quality sound and over 400 lines of digital video resolution work together to give an outstanding home theatre experience. Other features include Sony's signalseeker LED for easy install and a universal remote.*System price does not include monthly programming fees starting a \$29.95 plus additional charges for pay-per-view movies and events.

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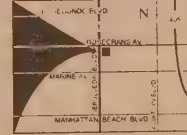
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1995 Stocking Stuffs For Amiga Buffs

Info, Toys, And Miscellaneous Cool Stuff

By Douglas J. Nakakihara

I've always felt that a magazine subscription was possibly the best gift anyone could give or receive. So here's a run down on publications of interest to Amiga users.

Amazing Computing is still hanging in there, but *Amiga World* bit the dust this year. However, its British sister publication, *Amiga Computing*, has begun publishing an exciting US edition to help fill the void. This extremely colorful magazine includes US advertisers and weighs in at near one hundred pages.

If you've ever seen any of the imported British Amiga magazines, you'll recognize the whimsical "cartoonish" look and sometimes-perplexing layout style. It may be a little hard for us Americans to read, but it is filled with interesting content, good product reviews, and lots of pictures and screen shots.

If you're into the Toaster, *Video Toaster User* magazine is still going strong. Its format was revamped this year, and a lot of the staff is new as well. It's now much more focused on the needs of its readers and, I think, a better publication. For LightWave 3D users, I highly recommend its sister publication, *LightWave Pro*, as well. Both of these publications feature regular and guest columns by experts in their fields.

Speaking of the Toaster, there is a new monthly CD-ROM-based magazine called *Club Toaster*, a very cool and affordable publication. It features a slick push-button interactive interface and comes with oodles of things for both Toaster and LightWave users. So far they've included audio samples, Flyer/PAR video clips, Toaster effects, background images, image brushes, LightWave objects and scenes, and product reviews. The first issue—which may still be available—included Composite Studio 1.1, the Jurassic dinosaur object set, and a collection of wedding objects.

LightWave Explosions

With the release of LightWave for the PC and SGI, expect to see an explosion of materials related to this 3-D program.

Desktop Images offers a variety of tutorial tapes on LightWave, as well as the Video Toaster. One of its newest releases features Ron Thornton, the 3-D mastermind behind Foundation Imaging, the company that provides the fantastic special effects for *Babylon 5*. Ron's two tapes should be required viewing for any LightWave animator. He gives you lots of tricks and insights to help you build more realistic objects.

There's even a LightWave video magazine that delivers one to two hours of tutorials, reviews, etc. on VHS tape every month. What a wonderful way to learn how to use this program! Although I still prefer hardcopy tutorials, it's not uncommon to run into roadblocks set up by well-meaning editors and proofreaders. At least with videotape, you can usually see what they are talking about.

Many new products extend LightWave's functionality. One very interesting product is called Fiber Factory. This utility will actually coat a LightWave object with hair! I haven't actually played with it yet, but the objects in the ads look very interesting.

Impact! is another new utility that automatically computes physical properties for objects. This allows you to animate things with much more real-life qualities. Also, I recently saw a demo of MacroForm, which allows LightWave modelers to create much more organic-looking objects using rails and extrusion tools. One of the interesting things about this program is that it operates right on Modeler's interface. I'm hoping to review all of these products in the near future.

MultiMedia & BEYOND

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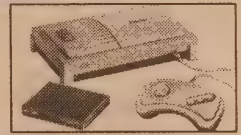
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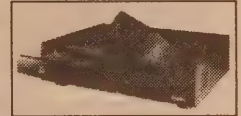
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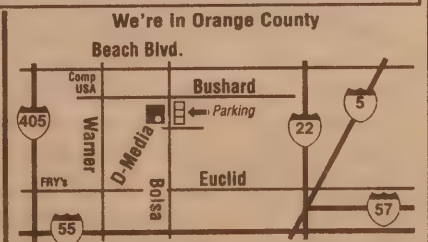


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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3 Holiday Gift Guide

Amiga *continued...*

FreeForm is another application for the 3-D modeler, but is not LightWave specific. It is a separately running modeler that makes it easy to create smooth complex objects. Most often you'll rail-extrude cross-sections to form objects. This includes the ability to morph one cross-section into another during the extrusion. There is also a mode that lets you create an object out of a series of cross-sections, much like Imagine's forms editor. The display update is blazingly fast, including its rendered previews. It saves in a variety of object formats, so it is compatible with all Amiga 3-D programs. Documentation is a bit weak, but the program is affordably priced.

One of the first LightWave particle animation utilities, Sparks, is still around. Wavemaker is still available too. 1995 saw the release of the second version of this logo animation program, with more effects and greater compatibility with LightWave.

Pixel 3D Pro is a great application for the 3-D animator. It supports a variety of 3-D object formats, plus it has its own set of object manipulation tools. It's very nice for creating 3-D objects out of PostScript fonts with a beveled edge. You can also use it to quickly preview objects.

Other CD-ROM Offerings

Everyone knows you can't fool Mother Nature. It's nearly as difficult to fool human beings with computer-generated imagery.

To solve this problem, several companies have released royalty-free stock footage image sequences of natural scenes that can be animated. My favorite of these is Moving Textures 100, which features some very professional animations of real clouds, fire, ocean waves, smoke, etc. It even comes with a reference VHS tape. This is perfect for digital video productions as well as 3-D animations.

"He blowed up real good" is a phrase from the old SCTV comedy television series that might be applicable to VCE's Pyromania 1 and 2. These two CDs include some fantastic sequences of real explosions, fire, smoke, fireworks, and more. These are top-notch high-grade images; some of them have already made their way into network TV special effects. This is a must-have for outer space battle scenes.

Several nice object collections are also available. Amiga Library Services distributes the Light-ROM series, with two volumes released so

far. Geared for the LightWave user, these discs include LightWave 3D objects, scenes, surface files, textures, animated maps, images, utility programs, ARexx scripts, CG and PostScript fonts, and Toaster effects.

Synthesis also distributes a couple CDs for the 3-D animator. Objects come in LightWave, Imagine, AutoCAD, 3D Studio, and Wavefront formats. The first volume also includes tileable TIFF, GIF, and IFF24 images.

Graphics

Well, 1995 finally saw the release of DeluxePaint V (aka DPaint 5) from Electronic Arts. Don't even think of using this on less than an '040 class machine. All of the new bells and whistles have taken a real toll on performance.

Still, there are a lot of cool things in the latest and perhaps final version of this all-time favorite. For A1200s and A4000s, DPaint IV AGA still has a lot to offer. There are even those who feel that DPaint III was the last real DPaint because it was the last version by the original programmer, Dan Silva.

ImageFX 2.0 was released this year with even more incredible features. Perhaps the most important one is support for 24-bit graphics boards using the Cybergraphics standard. You can finally use all of ImageFX's fantastic paint and image processing tools with Retina, Picasso, etc. Toaster support has also

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(414)674-5200

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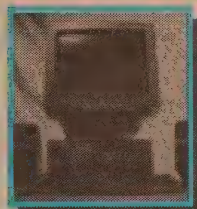
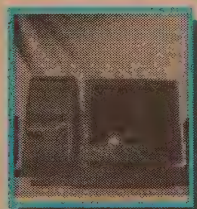
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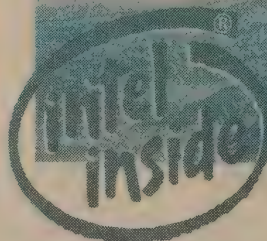
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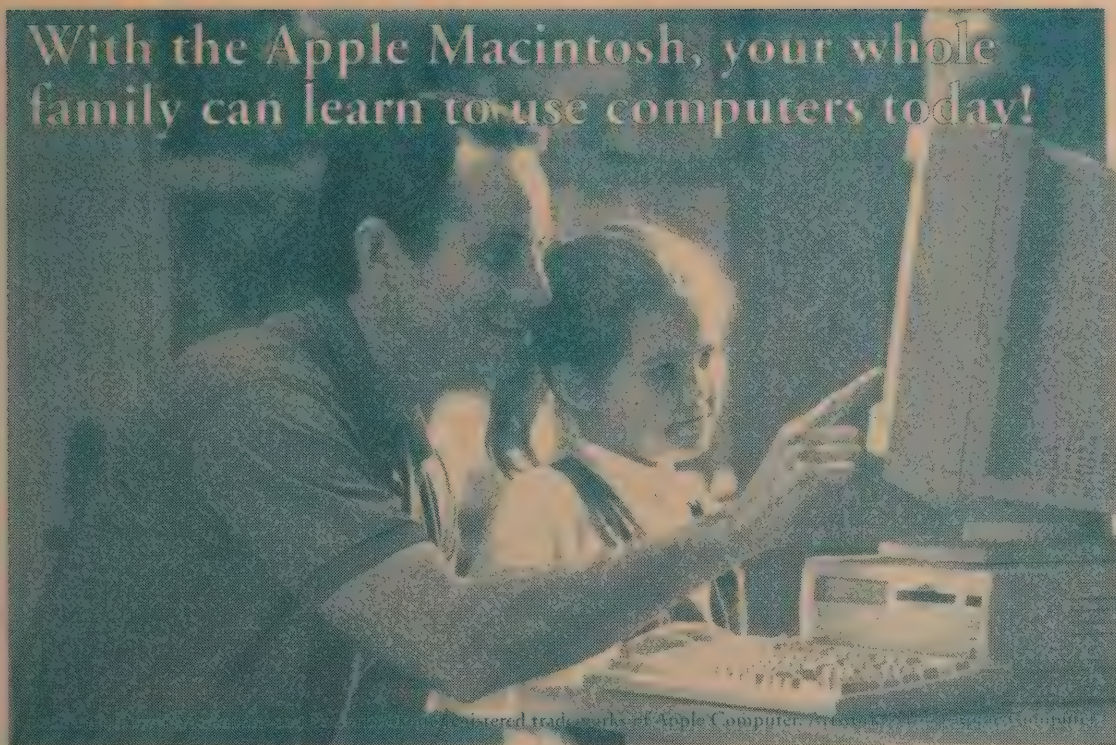
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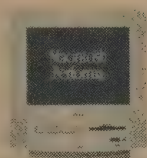


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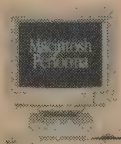
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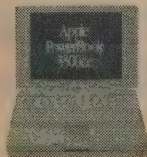
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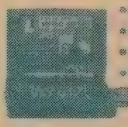


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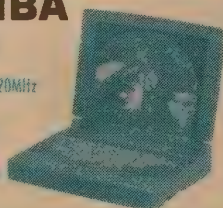
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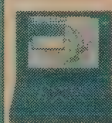
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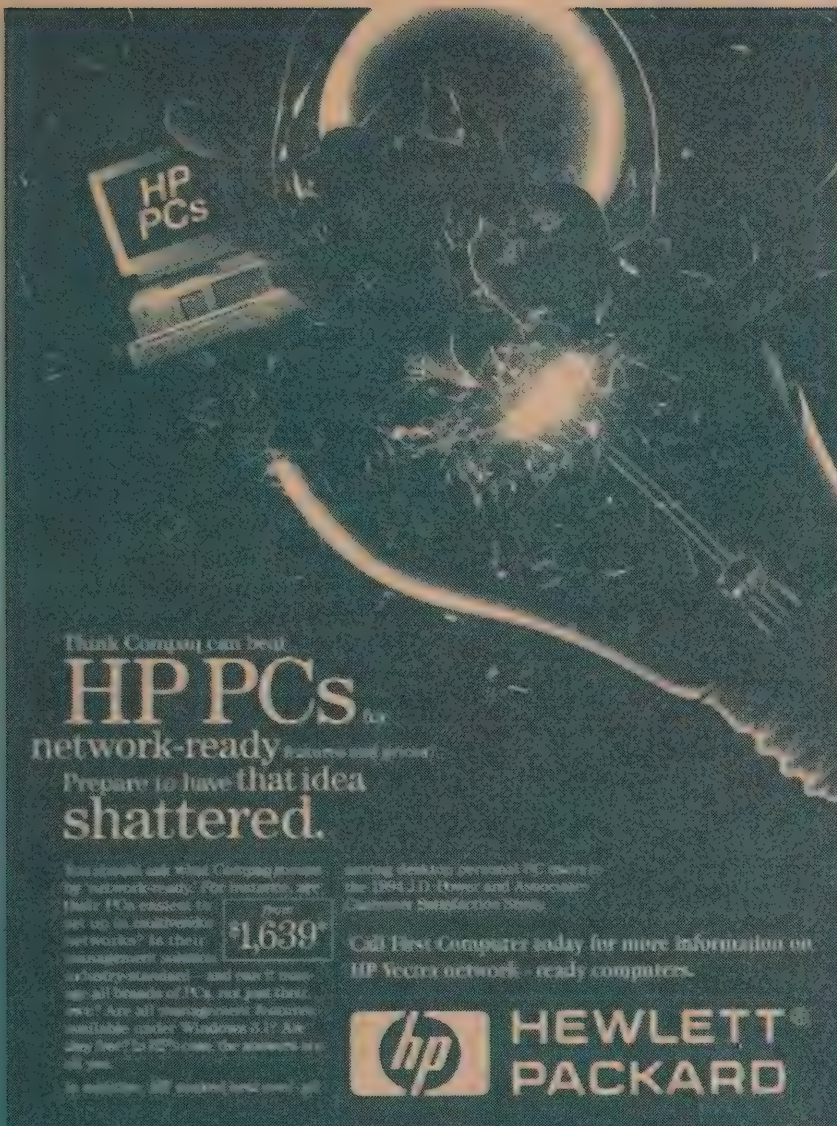
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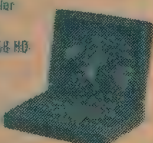
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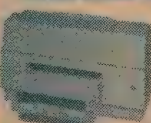
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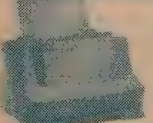
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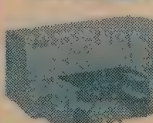
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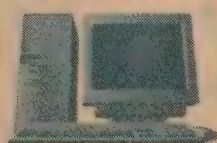


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Amiga *continued...*

been added. Although this includes the Preview as well as the Render display, the Preview display is not updated in real time. The Toaster framestore buffer is updated after each paint operation is finished. Still, this is a nice feature for Toaster users.

Anyone using the Video Toaster professional-ly should own AlphaPaint, InnoVision Technology's paint system that uses the Toaster's video buffer for display. I can't say enough good things about it. You can create beautiful still images with such minimal effort

(and in my case minimal talent!). I'd even recommend it to LightWave animators for creating and touching up image maps.

Another great utility is MainActor. I've only used the shareware version, although there is a professional version called MainActor Broadcast. One particular project I was working on called for delivery of the animations not only in video form, but also AVI. At the time nothing on the Amiga supported that format. We ended up converting Amiga anims to FLC using MainActor. Then, using Premiere on the PC, the FLC files were converted to AVI. MainActor now directly supports AVI, QuickTime, and many other formats.

Font Barrier

The barrier is finally down. Using Soft-Logik Publishing's TypeSmith, Amiga owners finally have access to the tons of TrueType fonts now available.

Although it doesn't let you use TrueType fonts in native mode (I've only seen one Amiga program do this), you can translate them to PostScript, Compugraphic, or even Amiga bitmap with ease. Of course, TypeSmith is also a great application to modify or create your own typefaces and save them in any of the popular formats. Videographers, desktop publishers, 3-D animators, etc. can all benefit from this program.

Speaking of fonts, I just got a wonderful CD collection called Handwritten Fonts from T/Maker. There are about three hundred fonts that all look like they were written by hand. They are in TrueType format, so you'll need TypeSmith to convert them to PostScript for use on an Amiga. T/Maker will also make a font using your own writing!

Floppy Port Network Is Back!

AmigaLink was originally imported from Germany by the now-defunct Spectronics (they also imported the Merlin graphics board). I'm extremely excited to see it picked up by AmiTriX Development, a Canadian company.

This is a very cool peer-to-peer Amiga network that uses the floppy disk port. It is SANA II compatible and will ship with Envoy—this is a real network. You can have a room full of Amigas on an AmigaLink network.

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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Amiga *continued...*

port won't be tied up, as they are with other similar products. AmigaLink is compatible with internal and external floppy drives, but using them simultaneously while transferring data over the network will cause some contention. Though it is a tad on the slow side, its features more than make up for this.

Hard Storage

The prices of SCSI hard drives have dropped through the floor this year. I just bought a 340MB SCSI II drive for \$95! One-gigers can be had for only a few hundred dollars; two gigs are less than a grand; four cost under \$1500; and I've seen 9GB drives for around \$2K! There has never been a better time to buy a hard drive.

Omega recently introduced their Zip drive, an inexpensive 100MB removable media drive for \$200. Syquest responded with a similar product, their EZ drive, with better capacity and

performance for a bit more money. Both use relatively inexpensive disks.

However, I suggest holding onto your wallet and wait for the Omega Jaz drive. This is a 1GB

THERE HAS
NEVER BEEN A
BETTER TIME TO
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removable media drive that is supposed to cost around \$500, with extra cartridges only \$100. What caught my attention is that the perfor-

mance specs are equal to or better than many hard drives. (I'm going to have to see this in action before I believe it, however.) I'm told that Omega is very interested in getting the drive to work with the Flyer. Jaz is liable to blow Omega's competitors right out of the water.

Leaning Tower Of Toasta

Yes, this year's column leans a lot towards the Video Toaster and LightWave 3D, but that's where most of the new Amiga product development has been.

Of course, a ton of games and productivity applications were also released in 1995. Check out the pages of any of the magazines I mentioned for more products. I'm anxious to see what happens when new Amigas start being available again. Next year's column should be chock-full of new "stuff." ■

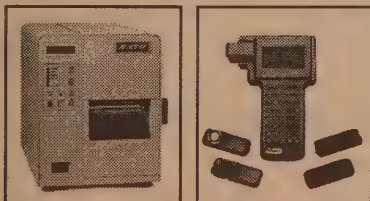
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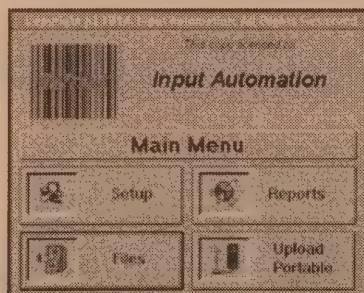


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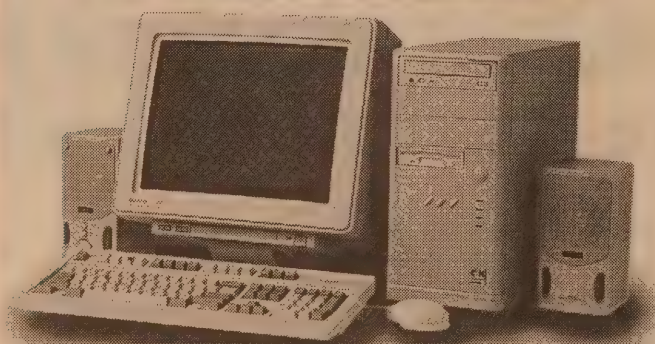
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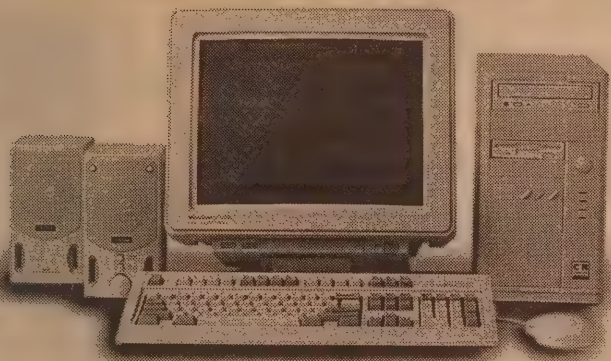
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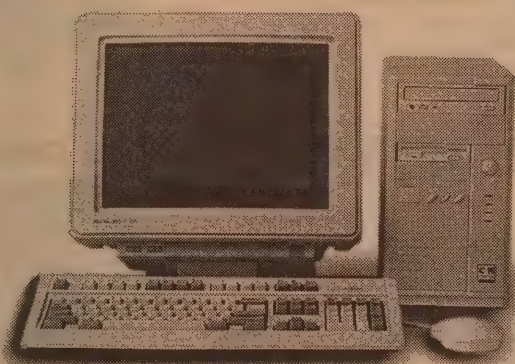
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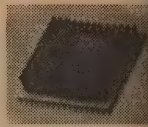
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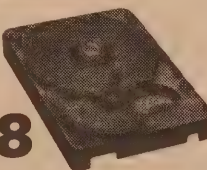
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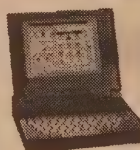
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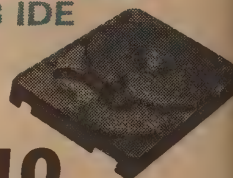


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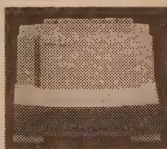
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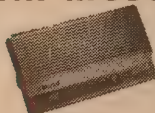
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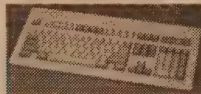
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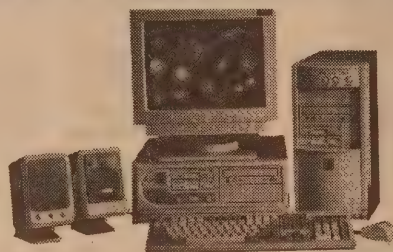


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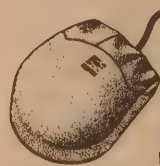
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New Games Get Psychic

Frankenstein, Detectives, And More

By Tony Reveaux

Game development is a restless art that operates in a continuous state of reinvention. Multimedia developers are driven by a frenzy of creative ambition even as the technology shifts and morphs under their feet. The methods of making multimedia games see more changes in one year than the fledgling motion picture industry saw in ten years. The ancestors of these CD-ROMs are the classic arcade games, but their fulfillment will be interactive movies, and their ultimate destiny will be immersive virtual reality.

When Reactor's pioneer graphic adventure *Spaceship Warlock* came out three years ago, it was one of the few on the then-new CD-ROM medium that enabled that humongous amount of rich data and interactivity to be economically possible. Many people bought a CD-ROM player just to be able to get on board *Warlock's* virtual comic book action. Today, each title generation, even from the same publisher, is often radically more advanced than the previous one.

There's another multimedia game trend—disc multiplication. Electronic Arts' *Psychic Detective* is on three discs. Access Media's cybermystery *Under a Killing Moon* is on four discs. Sierra On-Line's *Phantasmagora* contains "the most film footage ever included in any game" and is backed by a fully orchestrated soundtrack featuring a 135-voice choir, all stacked on (count 'em) seven CDs. They say that the sequel, due in February, may be squeezed down to six discs. The upcoming Digital Video Discs (DVD) format, with up to 18 gigs of storage, will be arriving not a moment too soon for these big story-tellers.

Multimedia games are being accelerated along two main development paths: more realistic full-screen full-motion video, and the development of interactive dramatic narrative. *Frankenstein: Through the Eyes of the Monster*, produced by Amazing Media of San Anselmo, and *Psychic Detective*, from Colossal Pictures of San Francisco and Electronic Arts of San Mateo, are two new titles that reflect vigorous efforts in these directions. *Frankenstein* has just been released; *Detective* has been seen in beta previews.



Frankenstein: Through The Eyes Of The Monster

It took the Amazing team of twenty to twenty-five people more months than they had anticipated—years, in fact—to complete *Frankenstein: Through the Eyes of the Monster*. Some mumblings could be heard that it may have taken more time than creating life itself.

But now the Macintosh/Windows CD-ROM is on the shelves, published by Interplay/MacPlay. And it all fits on one CD-ROM.

Joining the growing trend of big-screen talent being digitized down for the desktop, Dr. Frankenstein is played by none other than Tim Curry, immortalized as Dr. Frank N. Furter in the cult favorite movie *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Curry's blue-screen antics are composited over the richly rendered realism of *Frankenstein: Through the Eyes of the Monster*.

The game castle environment has seven layers of multiple achievement levels of floors, chambers, towers, and secret passages. You, the player, are

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New Games Get Psychic *continued...*

The Monster. How did they avoid role-playing gender identification problems? To maintain the sense of the unknown, the user never sees a mirror, except for one ambiguous instant. And, because the Good Doctor never wasted a part, one of your arms (and who knows what else) once belonged to a woman.

This title is indicative of a new challenge that many digital entertainment producers are beginning to face. Delivering a high-quality, accessible product may not always be enough to make it stand out in the marketplace. Celebrity/brand name recognition and association—and its attendant cost—is becoming one more component to include in the box. Amazing Media is only a mouseclick away on the map from major Marin title breweries like Brøderbund, LucasArts, and Mindscape, Inc. (formerly The Software Toolworks) but, to be closer to them in output, they can't leave any feature unturned.

In playing the game, everything is beautifully modeled and rendered in full-screen motion with shadow details and ambient sound. It is a graphic adventure with the depth of an exploration piece as you try and piece together the spooky mysteries. You can call a 900 number for hints (Psst!—the combination for the acid lab door is UUDUD). Spatially it remains within the *Spaceship Warlock*-era point-click-and-move method of navigation. In *Doom*, for comparison, you can move in constant global motion within a virtual 3-D environment. But, as with *Doom*, I am happy to say, you can also save at any point in *Frankenstein*.

Psychic Detective

Created by Executive Producer Jim Simmons of Electronic Arts, directed by digital virtuoso John Sanborn from Colossal Pictures, and keyboarded by screenwriter Michael Kaplan, the character-driven mystery-comedy *Psychic Detective* takes interactivity to a new mental plane. Paralleling literary and cinematic conventions where the reader's point of view can inhabit different people, you, the player, will select char-

acters in the drama and take the risks of getting inside their heads.

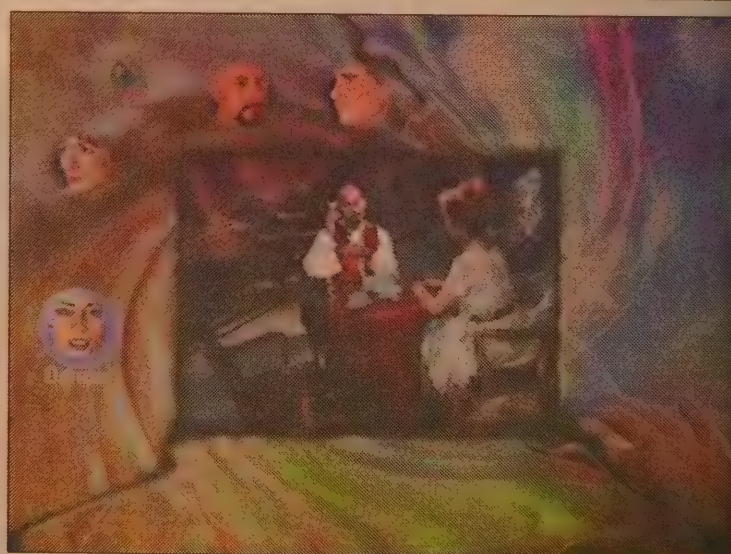
This wrinkle in mind pivots around the paranormal protagonist Eric Fox, who is a psychic (but one who does *not* advertise on cable TV). As the central character, Fox provides the continuity through your jarring cybertripping 'twixt cortexes and crises. In the three-minute opening and in transitions, a hard-boiled

The opening, the introduction, and Fox's POVs are framed in full screen; the character POVs are quarter-screen. As you cruise through the different locations and scenes of the story, characters and objects appear as icons around the frame, revealing their availability. Click on a character and you enter their POV. Other characters and objects, perhaps not visible from the POV of the last character, may

The methods of making multimedia games see more changes in one year than the fledgling motion picture industry saw in ten years.



Above: on the set for *Psychic Detective*; right: the finished product.



detective-style voice-over informs and reveals.

"I like a lot of the '50s black-and-white film noir," confesses Simmons—"Asphalt Jungle, Kiss Me Deadly, Dark Passage. The voice-over helps to compress the back story; it gives some of Fox's opinions and supports the player's sense of ominous mood. Fox doesn't know any of these people, or this weird community of Russian Psychics that he's fallen into. He doesn't know who to trust."

I saw a preview demo of *Psychic Detective* at Electronic Arts, and in its public premiere at the 18th Annual Mill Valley Film Festival. There, the game was demonstrated on a computer out-putting through a video projector to animate the classic big screen of the Sequoia theater. Actor Peter Coyote manned the mouse for the first foray through the shimmering cyberstage.

become available and expand the number of plot possibilities.

The game is meant to be played through and concluded within thirty to sixty minutes, so point-to-point saves, as in *Doom*, are not necessary. Each time the game is played, different experiences, outcomes, and continuity can be played back. The game is meant to be playable ten or fifteen times. On PCs, but not on game machines, concluded games can be saved for playback viewing.

At the end of the narrative continuity of *Psychic Detective* you are confronted with the riddle of concluding a 3-D board game called Black Diamonds. Spinning cubes bear the images of the characters and objects you've selected, and now it's up to you to make symmetrical sense of it all. If you can.

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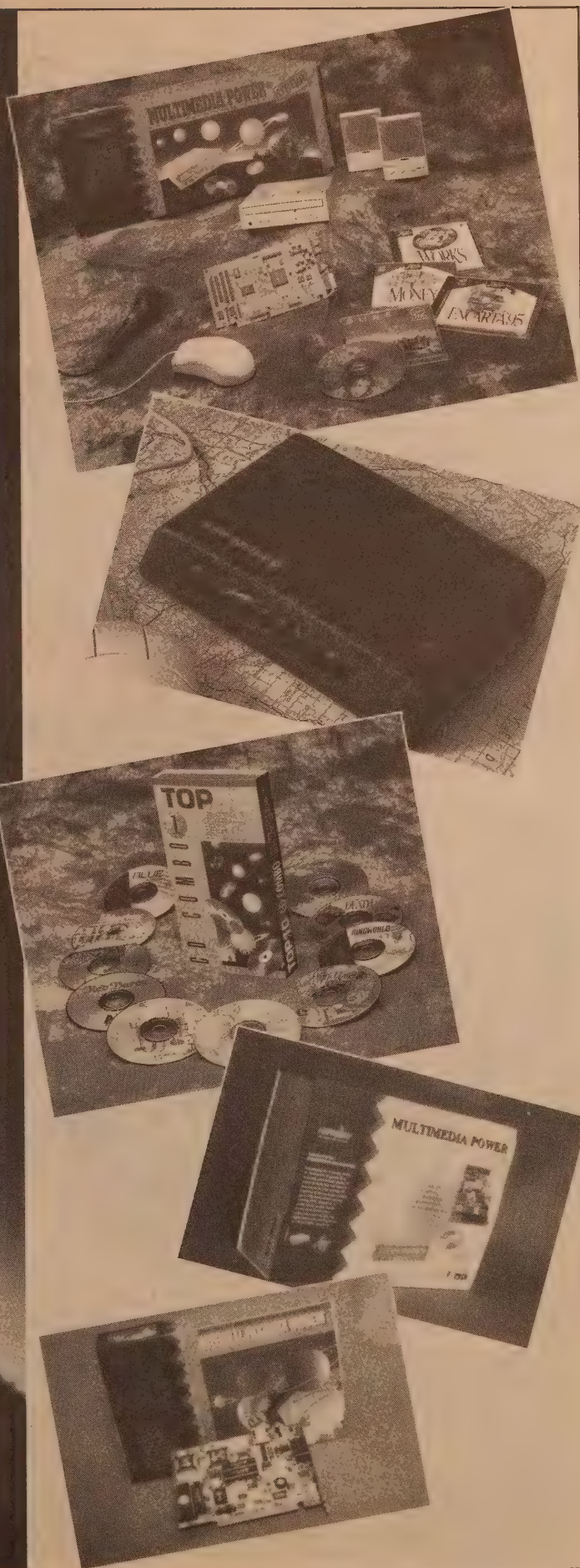
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New Games Get Psychic *continued...*

Slated to hit the shelves to meet the Christmas rush, *Psychic Detective* will be issued for 3DO, Windows, and Sony Playstation, with a Macintosh version probably following later.

Games Online

rec.g@mes: Games and Game Resources on the Internet by Joseph Grant Bell (BradyGames, 414 pp., \$19.95) is an excellent compendium of what's available in the great big gaming arena of cyberspace. And there really is quite a lot.

For games you're already playing, like *Doom* and *Descent*, there are many resources, news-groups, and Web pages, and for every realm of game activity and interest, including the Video Arcade Preservation Society and BattleTech. You'll find everything you would want to know—and to access—about MUDs, MOOs, and MUCKs (that is, MultiUser Dimensions/Dungeons and such). There are resources to games you can play by email, and a

whole chapter on arcade and cartridge game resources. Bell goes on to include all the addresses for more terrestrial games like Magic, chess, and other card and board games. But here, it's all online.

A Different Game

Now at election time, it is my citizen's duty to report on another relevant resource, Gerard Jones' *How to Lie With Charts* (Sybex, 279 pp., \$16.99). Of interest not only to Perot-watchers and Gingrichleaners, this tart tome demystifies charts and graphs in graphic presentations. The author shows that far from being figures cast in stone, chart specs can just as easily be cue balls on rubber sheets. His point is not just to debunk bars and pillory pie-charts, but to enable us to more clearly see what is real from what is puffery. ■

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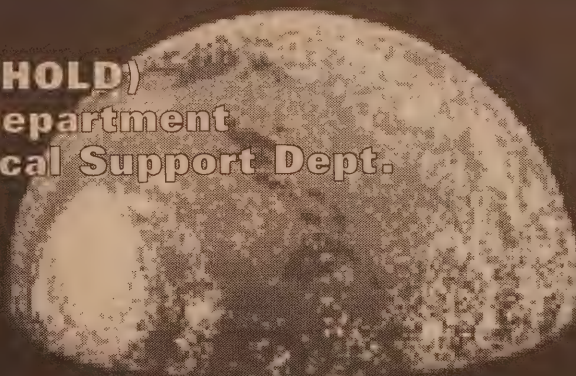
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Everywhere you look, folks are talking about the Internet and multimedia. World Wide Web browsers like Netscape make the Internet easy enough for a child to navigate. GopherVR will let you explore gopherspace using a slick, first-person "you are there" perspective. RealAudio lets you tune into audio on demand, even over a 14.4Kbps modem. The Internet and multimedia are slowly becoming intertwined.

Even tools as pedestrian as electronic mail benefit from the addition of multimedia. Today, most email sent and received is composed of boring ASCII text—letters, numbers, and a few symbols. The email that most of us send and receive lacks interesting fonts, colors, or the formatting options available in the simplest word processors. However, electronic mail is beginning to see a multimedia shift of its own.

MIME

Today, MIME (the Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions specification) lets Internet users send email containing graphics and text with simple layout. MIME is a freely available specification that offers a way to interchange text in languages with different character sets, and multimedia email among various computer systems. MIME messages can include, in addition to plain old ASCII text, other character sets, images and sounds, PostScript files, pointers to FTPable files, and more.

MIME is increasing in popularity, but is far from ubiquitous. Not all email clients can handle MIME, although an increasing number of them do, like Eudora (for the Mac and Windows) and TCP/Connect II (for the Macintosh).

VideoMail

In another example of how multimedia is enhancing electronic mail, there's

VideoMail—a shareware program for the Macintosh that makes it easy to email a QuickTime movie of yourself hamming it up to a friend.

Using VideoMail, you can digitize yourself (using audio and video, or just audio, depending on the hardware attached to your Mac), enter an email address, and watch VideoMail encode the multimedia message and fire it off to an associate in just a few seconds. The recipient receives email with an encoded attachment—a QuickTime movie—of your face and voice.

VideoMail works great for short messages, but you're likely to annoy your friends if you send them a ten-minute video of yourself dancing around with the cat on your head. As with other multimedia tools, sending audio and video messages with VideoMail takes a good chunk of bandwidth—about 7Kbps for audio only, and 30Kbps for audio and video. The program's author recommends keeping audiovisual messages to fifteen seconds or less, and audio-only messages to under forty-five seconds. That fifteen-second VideoMail message with audio and video can take about four minutes to download at 14.4Kbps. Many users would agree that while that could be much faster, this is approaching an acceptable download time for a message of that length.

VideoMail is not an end-all email program. It was designed to be a simple, send-only multimedia mailer, and is a fine complement to a full-fea-

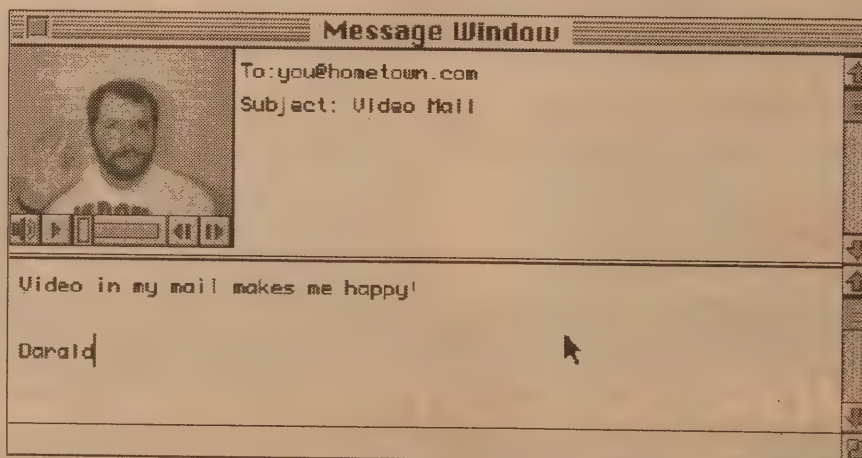
tured email program like Eudora. Perhaps soon, "full-featured" mail programs will include the ability to capture and send audio and video, without the help of a separate program like VideoMail.

VideoMail is only available for the Mac, but the price is right: a \$5 shareware fee is all the author requests. Besides five bucks and a Mac, you'll also need a SLIP or PPP Internet connection. Windows users, don't

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Electronic Mail Comes Of Age

By Kevin M. Savetz



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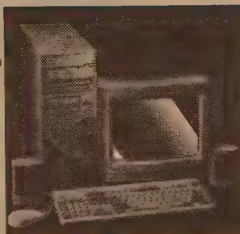


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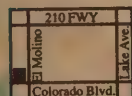
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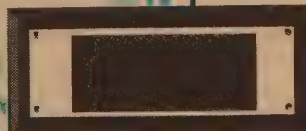
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Multimedia In Your Email *continued...*

When you're ready to send and receive video (with VideoMail or with real videoconferencing) you'll still need a video camera to beam your mug into cyberspace. Luckily, cheap hardware is already available: a company named Connectix has a gadget called the QuickCam, a \$99 black-and-white snowball-sized job that works with CU-SeeMe.

If you're a Windows user, look no further than Logitech's VideoMan. It's even cooler than the QuickCam, although a bit more pricey at \$399. The VideoMan is a sound and full-color video capture card for Windows machines. Besides working with CU-SeeMe, the VideoMan can do CD-quality audio, 30 frames-per-second video, and includes its own digital camera.

VideoMail works great for short messages, but you're likely to annoy your friends if you send them a ten-minute video of yourself dancing around with the cat on your head.

despair: it's probable that someone will hack together a similar tool for Windows users too.

Multimedia Mail For The Masses?

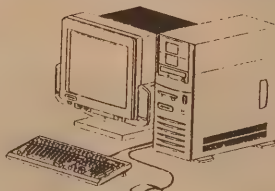
Multimedia electronic mail will likely become a staple of Internet communications in coming months—certainly sooner than real-time applications like CU-SeeMe will. "Live" multimedia applications like CU-SeeMe and Internet Phone need to be able to send and receive information in real time—should your network connection

slow down below a certain limit, packets of information will arrive late, or get lost. If you're participating in a videoconference and your network connection gets bogged down, a constant stream of packets (arriving in more or less the same order which they were created) is important. Receiving a snippet of video that should have arrived ten seconds ago makes for a conversation that is, at best, hard to follow.

But electronic mail doesn't occur in real time: it doesn't matter terribly if the message you sent is received in ten seconds or five min-

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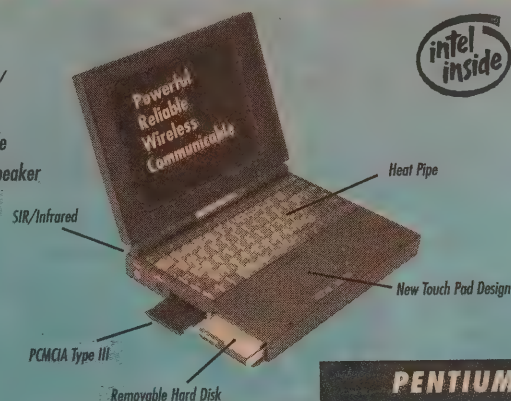
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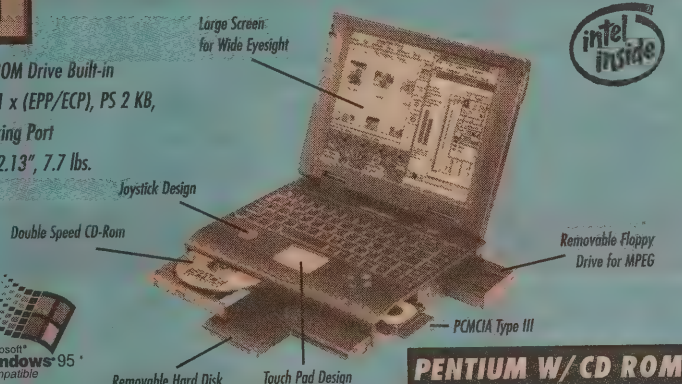


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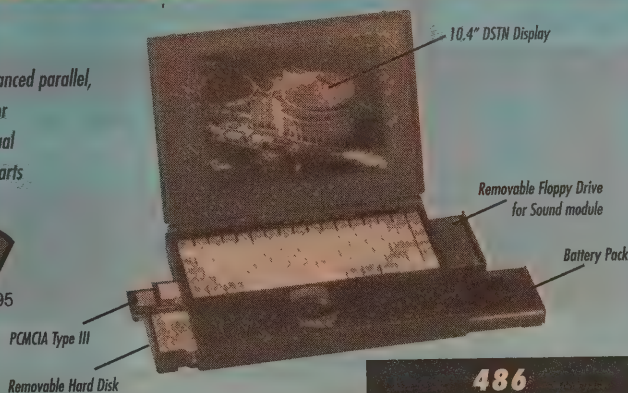


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Multimedia In Your Email *continued...*

As with other multimedia tools, sending audio and video messages with VideoMail takes a good chunk of bandwidth.

utes. So, with multimedia email, the information can travel at a more leisurely pace. If packets arrive out of order, they can be reassembled in sequence with no loss of continuity. So when your email program barks that mail has arrived, you'll receive a clear message, complete with video and audio.

Multimedia email works with a slow Internet connection—like your 14.4 modem. Videoconferencing doesn't.

Some people say that in the Internet's middle future, your service provider may charge not based on how long you're online, but based on how much information you send and how quickly you want that data to arrive. Under this scheme, real-time audio and video would use a lot of bandwidth requiring fast distribution to the recipient—expensive. On the other hand, a multimedia email message would cost less to send—although it might use the same amount of bandwidth, data could be sent at a lower priority because precise timing is not critical. ■

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For more information about MIME, read the comp.mail.mime FAQ, available on the Internet at
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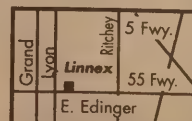
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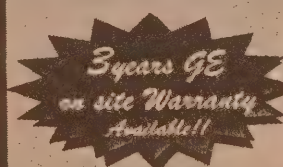
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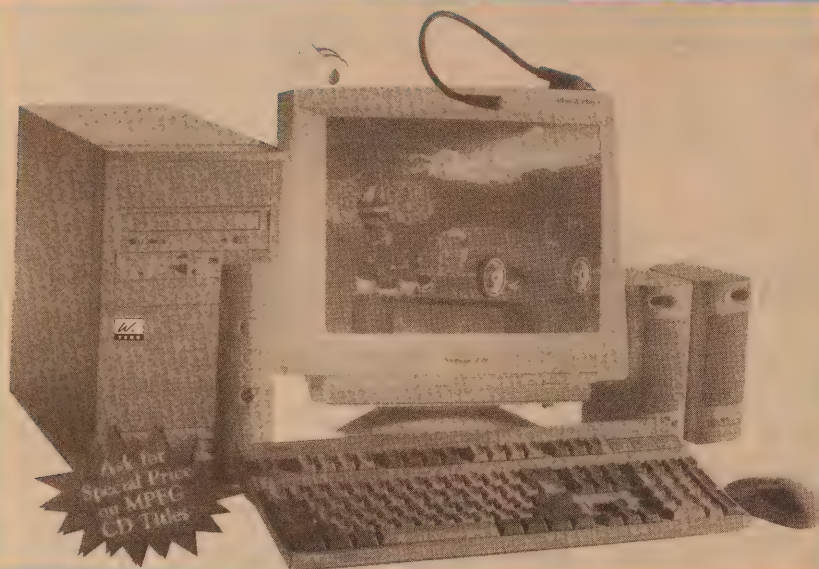
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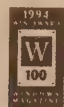
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 15" SVGA - 28 N/I Monitor
 Mid Tower Case w/230 W
 Enhance 101 Keyboard and Hi Resolution Mouse
 4X CD Rom, Sound Blaster 16, Yamana M-5 Speaker
 14 CD Titles
 Microsoft Window 95 Included

\$1649

Pentium 70

\$1749

Pentium 90

\$1799

Pentium 100

\$1889

Pentium 133

\$2049

Pentium 133

TRITON SUPREME STATION

Intel Pentium Processor
 Intel Triton Chipset PCI Main Board
256K Pipe Line Burst Cache
16 MB RAM, (70 ns)
 (Upgrade to EDO Memory - Add \$100)
 1.44 MB Floppy Disk
WD 1.6 GB Enhance Made 3 Hard Disk (10 MS)
 2 Hi Speed 16550 UART Serials Ports
 Bi Directional Parallel Port
 Diamond Stealth 64 PCI w/2 MB DRAM
Viewsonic V17EA 1280x1024 N/I w/build-in Speaker
 Full Tower Case w/250 W
 Keytronic Keyboard For Win 95 and Logitech Serial Mouse
 4X CD Rom, Sound Blaster 16, Yamana M-5 Speaker
 14 CD Titles
 Microsoft Window 95 Included

\$2499

Pentium 90

\$2549

Pentium 100

\$2649

Pentium 133

\$2799

Pentium 133

TRITON SCSI-2 STATION

Intel Pentium Processor
 Intel Triton Chipset PCI Main Board
256K Pipe Line Burst Cache
16 MB RAM (70 ns)
 (Upgrade to EDO Memory - Add \$100)
 1.44 MB Floppy Disk
 1 GB Fast SCSI-2 Hard Disk
Adaptec PCI SCSI-2 Controller
 2 Hi Speed 16550 UART Serials Ports
 Bi Directional Parallel Port
 Diamond Stealth 64 PCI w/2 MB DRAM
Viewsonic V17EA 1280x1024 N/I w/build-in Speaker
 Full Tower Case w/250 W
 Microsoft Nature Keyboard and Microsoft Mouse
 4X CD Rom, Sound Blaster 16, Yamana M-5 Speaker
 14 CD Titles
 Microsoft Window 95 Included

\$2599

Pentium 90

\$2649

Pentium 100

\$2749

Pentium 120

\$2899

Pentium 133

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PARTS

SYSTEM BOARDS

Intel P5-133 EV w/256K Burst Cache	\$299.00
QT P5 Triton Chip w/Wide SCSI-3 Build in	\$355.00
QT P5 Triton Chip w/SCSI-2 Build in	\$299.00
QT P5 Triton Ultra Wide SCSI-3	\$389.00
Asus P5-133 w/256K Burst Cache	\$299.00
Intel Triton advanced 25 - P5-90 133 MHz PCI M/B w/256K Cache	\$219.00
Intel Triton - P5-90 120 MHz PCI M/B w/256K Cache OEM	\$159.00
Amtron 6900 - 486DX VLB M/B (30/72 Pin)	\$85.00
Amtron 7600 Triton	\$129.00
Shuttle UMC PCI 486 w/IDE I/O	\$99.00
OPTI 486DX4 VLB M/B (72 Pin)	\$99.00
Vega (USA) 486DX VLB M/B (30 Pin)	\$125.00
Vega (USA) 486DX VLB M/B (72 Pin)	\$135.00

* Motherboards from AMI, Asus, and Micronics available upon request.

MICROPROCESSORS (CPU)

Intel Pentium 133 MHz	\$549.00
Intel Pentium 120 MHz	\$515.00
Intel Pentium 100 MHz	\$279.00
Intel Pentium 90 MHz	\$119.00
Intel Pentium 75 MHz	\$99.00
Intel 486DX4-100 MHz	\$119.00
AMD 486DX4-120 MHz	\$89.00
AMD 486DX4-100 MHz	\$45.00
AMD 486DX4-80 MHz 3V	\$75.00
Intel 486DX2-66 MHz	\$8.00
Pentium CPU fan	\$6.00
486 CPU fan	\$6.00

* Due to the volatility of CPU prices, we regret that we cannot guarantee the prices as shown, please call for the latest price.

MEMORY

Pipeline Burst Cache 256K	\$75.00
Simmm 1x3 (1mb) 30 pin	\$36.00
Simmm 4x3 (4mb) 30 pin	\$125.00
Simmm 1x32 (4mb) 72 pin	\$119.00
Simmm 1x32 EDO	\$229.00
Simmm 2x32 (8mb) 72 pin	\$269.00
Simmm 2x32 EDO	\$469.00
Simmm 4x32 (16mb) 72 pin	\$549.00
Simmm 4x32 EDO	\$2199.00
Simmm 8x36 (32mb) 72 pin	\$139.00
Simmm 16x36 (64mb) 72 pin	\$289.00
Simmm 1x36	\$539.00
Simmm 2x36	\$539.00
Simmm 4x36	\$539.00

* Due to the volatility of Memory prices, we regret that we cannot guarantee the prices as shown, please call for the latest price.

FLOPPY DISK DRIVES

Epson 1.44 mb	\$26.00
Epson 1.2 mb	\$32.00
Mitsumi 1.2mb (5.25)	\$39.00
Mitsumi 1.44mb (3.5)	\$28.00
Teac 1.2mb (5.25)	\$42.00
Teac 1.44mb (3.5)	\$32.00
Teac dual 1.2mb (5.25) 1.44mb (3.5)	\$80.00

ADD ON BOARDS AND CONTROLLERS

AT Super IDE IO adapter (dual FDD & HDD, 2S, 1P, 1G)	\$12.00
Vesa Local Bus Super IDE & IO	\$17.00
AT IDE w/16550 Hi-Speed IO	\$19.00
VLB IDE w/16550 Hi-Speed IO	\$25.00
Promise 2300-Enhanced VLB 16550 UR	\$46.00
Promise 4050 Pim	\$115.00
Promise 503 PCI Cache	\$129.00
Tagran WD Caching 6800 DC	\$105.00
Adaptec AHA-1522K SCSI floppy/hard adapter card	\$79.00
Adaptec AHA-1542CF SCSI bus master adapter card OEM	\$165.00
Adaptec AHA-2840K SCSI-3 host adapter card	\$189.00
Adaptec AHA-2940 PCI wide SCSI-3 host adapter card	\$229.00
Adaptec AHA-2940 PCI fast SCSI-2 host adapter card	\$179.00

* Please call for pricing on GSI, Promise, Bus Logic, Boca, DTC, Ultrastor, Future Domain, Always, Tekram and Q Logic controllers.

HARD DISK DRIVES

CONNER CFS 425A - 425mb IDE	\$145.00
Conner CFS 540A - 540mb IDE	\$165.00
Conner CFS 850A - 850mb IDE	\$189.00
Conner CFS 1275A - 1.2GB IDE	\$259.00
Conner CFP 1080S - 1080 SCSI-2	\$269.00
Conner 2.1GB SCSI-2	\$685.00
Conner 2107 W Wide SCSI-3	\$749.00
Fujitsu 1.08 GB IDE	\$209.00
Maxtor MX-7540A - 540mb IDE	\$167.00
Maxtor MX-7850A - 850mb IDE	\$189.00
Maxtor MX-T-1200A - 1.2GB IDE	\$259.00
Maxtor MX-71620A - 1.6GB IDE	\$295.00
Quantum 540mb IDE	\$169.00
Quantum 1.08 GB IDE (10 ms)	\$225.00
Quantum 540mb SCSI	\$199.00
Quantum 730mb IDE	\$225.00
Quantum 1080S - 1.08GB SCSI	\$299.00
Quantum 2GB SCSI	\$699.00
Quantum 2.1GB Wide SCSI-3	\$959.00
Samsung 420mb IDE	\$145.00

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Samsung 560mb IDE	\$159.00
Segate 360A - 540mb IDE	\$168.00
Segate 31200A - 1.05GB IDE	\$269.00
Segate 31230N - 1.05GB SCSI	\$419.00
Segate 32430N - 2.14GB SCSI	\$929.00
Western Digital AC2630 - 630mb IDE	\$169.00
Western Digital AC2850 - 850mb IDE	\$189.00
Western Digital AC31200 - 1.2GB IDE	\$269.00
Western Digital AC31600 - 1.6GB IDE	\$369.00
WD 2100 Enable Mode 4	\$215.00

* Please call for pricing on Digital (DEC), Micropolis, Mini-Stor, and any other unlisted models.

CHASSIS (CASES)

API GT-151 Mini Tower w/230W UL PS	\$69.00
API GT-210 Mid Tower w/250W UL PS	\$105.00
API GT-300 Full Tower w/300W UL PS	\$159.00
PAC C-11 Desktop w/230W PS	\$43.00
PAC C-21 Mini Tower w/230W PS	\$57.00
PAC C-31 Mid Tower w/230W PS	\$75.00
PAC C-41 Full Tower w/250W PS	\$75.00
PAC A-21 Mini Tower w/230W PS	\$37.00
PAC A-31 Mid Tower w/230W PS	\$37.00
PAC A-41 Full Tower w/250W PS	\$69.00
Diamond CS-150 Full Tower w/250W UL PS	\$135.00
Diamond CS-230 Mid Tower w/250W UL PS	\$95.00
Diamond CS-330 Mini Tower w/220W UL PS	\$69.00
Diamond CS-730 Desktop w/220W UL PS	\$71.00

* Black color available for CS-130, 230, 330 cases
* 2nd Fan available + \$9.00

VIDEO BOARDS

ATI mach64 PCI or VLB 4MB (V)	\$439.00
ATI mach64 PCI or VLB 2MB (V)	\$249.00
ATI mach64 PCI or VLB 2MB (V)	\$169.00
Diamond Stealth64 video PCI or VLB 4MB (V)	\$399.00
Diamond Stealth64 video PCI or VLB 2MB (V)	\$249.00
Diamond Stealth64 PCI or VLB 2MB (D)	\$119.00
Diamond Stealth64 PCI or VLB 1MB (D)	\$65.00
Cirrus Logic 5434 PCI 1MB	\$89.00
ET 4000 PCI 1MB	\$65.00
ET 4000 VLB 1MB	\$65.00
Trident 9440 PCI 1MB	\$59.00
Trident 8900 ISA 1MB	\$55.00
Trident 9000 ISA 512K	\$37.00

* Video Cards from Hercules, Matrox, Number 9, Orchid, Paradise, & STB available upon request.
(D) = DRAM (V) = VRAM

MONITORS

Arcus DCM 1458E 29	\$185.00
Arcus 1588 15 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$299.00
CTX 1451ES 14 SVGA-NI	\$315.00
CTX 1555GW 15 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$299.00
CTX 1662GM 15 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$349.00
CTX 1765GM 17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$349.00
MAG DX-15F 15 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$349.00
MAG DX-17F 17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$349.00
MAG MXP-17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$349.00
Sony 175F Multiscan 17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$855.00
Sony 175F Multiscan 17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$855.00
Viewsonic 15G 15 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$459.00
Viewsonic 15GA 15 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$799.00
Viewsonic 17GA 17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$749.00
Viewsonic 17GS 17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$799.00
Viewsonic 17T 17 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$799.00
Viewsonic 20G 20 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$885.00
Viewsonic 20S 20 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$1190.00
Viewsonic 21P 21 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$1649.00
KFC 1511 15 SVGA-NI	\$289.00
KFC 1507 15 SVGA-NI (Green)D	\$329.00

* Please call for prices on NEC, Sony, Nanao, Nokia M7 and any other unlisted models.

KEYBOARDS

101 keys	\$14.00
Honeywell 101 keys	\$29.00
Keytronic 3601 Win 95	\$24.00
Focus 2001 w/hard dust cover	\$29.00
Focus 6200 w/hard dust cover	\$28.00
Focus 7000 w/trackball	\$34.00
Focus 8000 (calculator soft click)	\$43.00
Focus 9000 (programmable calculator)	\$36.00
Fujitsu 4720 (click)	\$25.00
Fujitsu 8725 Win 95	\$25.00
Microsoft Natural Hi-Tech	\$12.00
V-2000 KB	\$15.00
V-2000 KB 95	\$15.00

CD-ROM DRIVES

Aztech 6X IDE CDR	\$159.00
Hitachi 4X IDE CD Rom	\$119.00
Mitsumi 4X IDE CD Rom	\$119.00
Diamond 8X IDE CDR	\$299.00
Panasonic 4X IDE CD Rom	\$199.00
NEC 511 4x internal SCSI	\$335.00
NEC 512 6x internal SCSI	\$485.00
NEC 6x External SCSI	\$445.00
Plexstor 6x internal SCSI OEM	\$245.00
Toshiba 3601 4x internal SCSI	\$189.00
Toshiba 3701 6.7x SCSI	\$319.00
Toshiba 5302 4x internal IDE	\$285.00
Toshiba 3601 4x internal SCSI	\$129.00
Teac 55A 4x internal IDE	\$119.00
Teac 6X IDE CD Rom	\$189.00
Teac 506 4x CD & 1.44 FDD	\$149.00
Sanyo 4X SCSI-2	\$119.00
Sony 77E 4X IDE	\$12.00
4 CD titles	\$37.00
14 CD titles	\$42.00
16 CD titles	\$45.00
18 CD titles	\$45.00

* Please call for pricing on Texel, Philip, Pioneer, and any other unlisted models.

SOUND CARDS AND SPEAKERS

Creative Labs S-B Basic	\$69.00
Creative Labs 16 Vibra IDE OEM	\$72.00
Creative Labs SCSI-2 OEM w/ASP	\$145.00
Creative Labs Ave 32 ASP and wave MCD	\$209.00
DC 691 25W Speakers	\$16.00
AT-95 160W Speakers	\$35.00
SSR 170W Speakers	\$29.00
Yamaha MS	\$29.00
Yamaha M10	\$55.00

* Please call for prices on ATI, Cardinal, Diamond, Logitech, Roland, Orchid, Turtle Beach sound products.

MODEMS

Pactical P 28.8 Int	\$159.00
Pactical P 28.8 Ext	\$185.00
Smartlink 14.4 PCMCIA data/fax	\$99.00
Smartlink 14.4 internal data/voice	\$49.00
Smartlink 14.4 internal data/fax/voice	\$55.00
Smartlink 28.8 internal data/fax v.34	\$135.00
Smartlink 28.8 external data/fax v.34	\$180.00
Smartlink 28.8 internal data/fax v.voice	\$180.00
U.S. Robotics Sportster 14.4 internal data/fax	\$89.00
U.S. Robotics Sportster 14.4 external data/fax	\$105.00
U.S. Robotics Sportster 28.8 internal data/fax v.34	\$165.00
U.S. Robotics Sportster 28.8 external data/fax v.34	\$199.00
U.S. Robotics 8 internal w/Voice	\$219.00
U.S. Robotics 28.8 External w/Voice	\$239.00

* Please call for prices on Boca, Hayes, Supra, and Zoom modems.

TAPE BACKUPS

AIWA 250mb internal w/tape	\$80.00
Colorado DJ-30 internal 350mb	\$119.00
Colorado I-100 internal 800mb	\$159.00
Colorado J-100 internal 1400mb w/FC-20 Controller	\$219.00
Colorado JT-20 external 250 parallel	\$589.00
Colorado JT-30 external 350 parallel	\$275.00
Colorado JT-35 external 700 parallel	\$367.00
Colorado AB-11 external adapter kit	\$75.00
Colorado KE-03 external drive kit	\$99.00
Colorado FC-10 500Kb/s - 1mb/s adapter kit	\$80.00
Colorado 1GB and 2GB internal and external	\$99.00
Conner TapeStar 250 internal	\$125.00
Conner TapeStar 420 internal	\$189.00
Conner TapeStar 850 internal	\$399.00
IO Mega 420 Internal/External	\$99.00/\$159.00
IO Mega 800 MB Internal/External	\$145.00/\$185.00
IO Mega 3.2 GB Internal/External	\$279.00/\$399.00
IO Mega Zip Drive 100 MB SCSI	\$219.00

* Please call for prices on BDC, Etabyte, I-Omega, Summit, Tecmar, and Wangtek tape backup systems.

MICE/TRACKBALLS

Otronix 3 button serial mouse	\$8.00
Logitech Bus Mouseman	\$62.00
Logitech PS-2/serial Mouseman	\$43.00
Logitech PS-2/serial Mouseman	\$69.00
Logitech Cyberman 30	\$42.00
Logitech cordless mouse	\$85.00
Microsoft serial mouse (OEM)	\$24.00
Microsoft bus mouse	\$32.00
Microsoft ballpoint trackball	\$49.00

PRINTERS

* Please call for prices on Canon, Citizen, Epson, Hewlett Packard and Panasonic printers.

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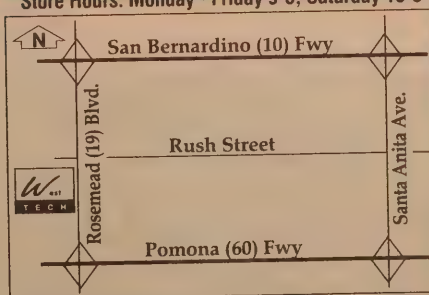
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- Quantum Fireball 1.2GB 12ms Fast ATA-2 Drive
- Toshiba Quad-Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Lab Vibra 16 Card
- Yamaha M10 Speaker System
- Matrox Millennium 2MB WRAM Video Card
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- 2 Serial Port (16550 Fast UART Compatible)
- 4 x PCI Bus, 4 x ISA Bus Slots
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- Microsoft Mouse 2.0
- One Year Warranty

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Pentium 100	\$2281
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- 512k Pipeline Burst External Cache
- Intel Triton Chipset
- Socket 7 with VRM Module
- Mid Tower Case, 300W FCC / UL
- 16MB 60ns EDO RAM expandable to 128MB
- NEC 1.44" 3.5" Diskette Drive
- Western Digital 1.6GB 9ms Fast ATA-2 Drive
- Toshiba Quad-Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Lab AWE 32 Card
- Yamaha M10 Speaker System
- Matrox Millennium 2MB WRAM Video Card
- 1 Parallel Port (EPP, ECP Port)
- 2 Serial Port (16550 Fast UART Compatible)
- 4 x PCI Bus, 4 x ISA Bus Slots
- Honeywell 104-key Keyboard
- MS-DOS 6.22, WFW 3.11 or Windows 95
- Microsoft Mouse 2.0
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Pentium 100	\$301
Pentium 133	\$3271
Pentium 150	\$3721

- 512k Pipeline Burst External Cache
- Intel Triton Chipset
- Socket 7 with VRM Module
- Tower Case, 300W FCC / UL
- 32MB 60ns EDO RAM expandable to 128MB
- NEC 1.44" 3.5" Diskette Drive
- Seagate Medalist 2GB 10.5ms Fast ATA-2 Drive
- Toshiba Quad-Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Lab AWE 32 Card
- Yamaha M10 Speaker System
- Matrox Millennium 4MB WRAM Video Card
- 1 Parallel Port (EPP, ECP Port)
- 2 Serial Port (16550 Fast UART Compatible)
- 4 x PCI Bus, 4 x ISA Bus Slots
- Honeywell 104-key Keyboard
- MS-DOS 6.22, WFW 3.11 or Windows 95
- Microsoft Mouse 2.0
- One Year Warranty

Vantage NT Power

Pentium 100	\$3946
Pentium 133	\$4206
Pentium 150	\$4656

- 512k Pipeline Burst External Cache
- Intel Triton Chipset
- Socket 7 with VRM Module
- Tower Case, 300W FCC / UL
- 32MB 60ns EDO RAM expandable to 128MB
- NEC 1.44" 3.5" Diskette Drive
- Adaptec 2940W Wide SCSI-2 Controller
- Quantum Atlas 2GB 8ms Wide SCSI Disk
- NEC Six-Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Lab AWE 32 Card
- Yamaha M10 Speaker System
- Matrox Millennium 2MB WRAM Video Card
- 1 Parallel Port (EPP, ECP Port)
- 2 Serial Port (16550 Fast UART Compatible)
- 4 x PCI Bus, 4 x ISA Bus Slots
- Honeywell 104-key Keyboard
- Microsoft Windows NT V3.51
- Microsoft Mouse 2.0
- One Year Warranty

Vantage NT Power Plus

Pentium 100	\$5317
Pentium 133	\$5577
Pentium 150	\$6027

- 512k Pipeline Burst External Cache
- Intel Triton Chipset
- Socket 7 with VRM Module
- Tower Case, 300W FCC / UL
- 64MB 60ns EDO RAM expandable to 128MB
- NEC 1.44" 3.5" Diskette Drive
- Adaptec 2940W Wide SCSI-2 Controller
- Quantum Atlas 4GB 8ms Wide SCSI Disk
- Toshiba Six-Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Lab AWE 32 Card
- Yamaha M10 Speaker System
- Matrox Millennium 4MB WRAM Video Card
- 1 Parallel Port (EPP, ECP Port)
- 2 Serial Port (16550 Fast UART Compatible)
- 4 x PCI Bus, 4 x ISA Bus Slots
- Honeywell 104-key Keyboard
- Microsoft Windows NT V3.51
- Microsoft Mouse 2.0
- One Year Warranty

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- Intel Neptune Chipset
- Tower Case, 300W FCC / UL
- 64MB 60ns Parity RAM expandable to 512MB
- NEC 1.44" 3.5" Diskette Drive
- DPT 2124W Wide SCSI-2 Controller
- Quantum Atlas 4GB 8ms Wide SCSI Disk
- Toshiba Six-Speed CD-ROM Drive
- Creative Lab AWE 32 Card
- Yamaha M10 Speaker System
- Matrox Millennium 4MB WRAM Video Card
- 1 Parallel Port (EPP, ECP Port)
- 2 Serial Port (16550 Fast UART Compatible)
- 4 x PCI Bus, 6 x EISA Bus Slots
- Honeywell 104-key Keyboard
- Microsoft Windows NT V3.51
- Microsoft Mouse 2.0
- One Year Warranty

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MAG
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MXP-17 17" 26 1280x1024 \$819

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T2.21 21" 28 1600 x 1200 \$1849
FX2.21 21" 28 1600 x 1200 \$2859
T2.17TS 17" 25 1600 x 1200 \$1039
T2.17 17" 25 1600 x 1200 \$1169
T2.20 21" 30 1600 x 1200 \$1979

NEC
XV 17 17" 28 1280x1024 \$769
XE 17 17" 28 1280x1024 \$998
XP 17 17" 28 1280x1024 \$1070
XP 21 21" 28 1600x1200 \$2125

Sony
17SF 17" 25 1280 x 1024 \$869
20SE 20" 30 1600 x 1200 \$1875

Samsung
17GL 17" 28 1280 x 1024 \$699
17GLs 17" 26 1600 x 1200 \$865
20GLs 20" 28 1280 x 1024 \$1296

Video Card

Diamond
Stealth 64 Video 64-bit 2MB VRAM \$239
Stealth 64 Video 64-bit 4MB VRAM \$410

Matrox
Millennium 64-bit 2MB WRAM \$299
Millennium 64-bit 4MB WRAM \$435
Millennium 64-bit 8MB WRAM \$Call
Memory Upgrade \$Call

Number Nine
Imagine 128 128-bit PCI 4MB \$560

Sound Card

Creative Lab
Sound Blaster Vibra 16 \$65
Sound Blaster AW32 \$169
Sound Blaster AWE32 Value Edition \$155
Sound Blaster AWE32 \$215

Turtle Beach
Tropex \$192
Monterey \$329

Optical Drive

Fujitsu
DYNA230B 230MB Internal \$Call

Panasonic
Power Drive 2 Optical & 4x CD \$490
LF-7304A 1.5GB Internal \$1999

CD-Recorder

Hewlett-Packard
SureStore CD-Writer \$997

Phillips
CDD-522 \$1794

Yamaha
CD-100 \$2490

CD-ROM

NEC
MultiSpin 4XC Quad 7 Disk Changer \$315
MultiSpin 6Xi Six-Speed SCSI \$319

Pioneer
UA124X Quad-Speed ATAPI \$149
DRM624X Quad 6 Disk Changer \$545

Sony
CDU-76E Quad-Speed ATAPI \$139

Toshiba
5302 Quad-Speed ATAPI \$139
3601 Quad-Speed SCSI \$265
3701 Six-Speed SCSI \$325

Hard Disk

Quantum
Fireball Range
FB1080 1.08GB Fast ATA-2 12ms \$217
Capella Range
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VP32210 2.2GB Wide SCSI 8.5ms \$765

Empire II Range
VP32181 2.1GB Ultra SCSI 8.9ms \$New
VP34360 4.3GB Ultra SCSI 8.9ms \$New
VP39100 9.1GB Ultra SCSI 8.9ms \$New
VP32181 2.1GB Wide Ultra SCSI 8.9ms \$New
VP34360 4.3GB Wide Ultra SCSI 8.9ms \$New
VP39100 9.1GB Wide Ultra SCSI 8.9ms \$New

Grand Prix Range
XP32151 2.1GB Fast SCSI 8.6ms \$825
XP34301 4.3GB Fast SCSI 8.6ms \$968
XP32151 2.1GB Wide SCSI 8.6ms \$955
XP34301 4.3GB Wide SCSI 8.6ms \$980

Atlas Range
XP32150 2.1GB Fast SCSI 8ms \$765
XP34300 4.3GB Fast SCSI 8ms \$1190
XP32150 2.1GB Wide SCSI 8ms \$795
XP34300 4.3GB Wide SCSI 8ms \$1260

Atlas Range II
XP34361 2.1GB Ultra SCSI 7.9ms \$New
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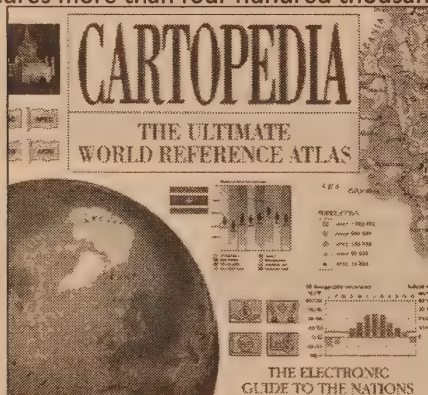
Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

New Products...continued from page 134

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Cartopedia: A World Reference Atlas

Combining the cartographic qualities of an atlas, the analytical and statistical depth of a gazetteer, and the reference capabilities of an interactive encyclopedia in one comprehensive disc, *Cartopedia* presents the world. It features more than four hundred thousand



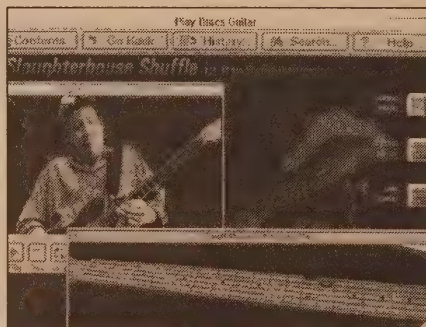
words, over nine thousand screens and pop-up windows, more than six hundred "zoomable" computer-generated maps, and over five hundred color photographs and video sequences. The *Cartopedia* gazetteer links place names to the maps to make finding specific locations quick and easy. The CD can be updated using DK Cartography's continuously updated database of place names and digitally created maps based on the latest satellite and geophysical survey data available. (\$69.95; CD-ROM for Windows available, Mac version available spring 1996) DK Multimedia, Inc., 95 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. (212)213-4800, 1-800-DKMM-575.

Leather & Fabric And Marble & Granite 2 Texture Collections

Artbeats has introduced two additions to its collection of royalty-free CD-ROM stock image titles. *Leather & Fabric* is a four CD-ROM set containing a library of digitized textiles designed for high-end prepress,

multimedia, video, and 3-D rendering. A wide variety of fine leathers and fabrics are provided, including antelope, cowhide, shark, python, sheepskin, linen, satin, silk, and velvet. *Marble & Granite* (four CD-ROM set) contains exotic minerals like meteorite, petrified wood, malachite, blue spectra, and Mexican crazy lace. The materials are photographed on 4" x 5" transparencies, then drum-scanned for optical printing at 200lpi (lines per inch) at US letter size with a full bleed. Many other sizes and formats are also included. (\$349, Macintosh and Windows) Artbeats Software, Inc., 2611 S. Myrtle Rd., Myrtle Creek, OR 97457. (503)863-4429.

Play Blues Guitar

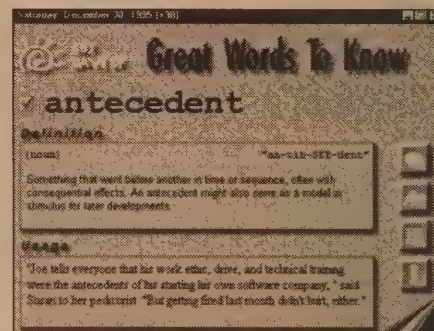


This CD-ROM for MPC featuring master blues guitarist Keith Wyatt was created with the goal of allowing a guitarist to learn music by playing music. It contains nearly 250 text, video, animation, and MIDI-enhanced lessons, including over one hundred minutes of video and animation. The CD features four songs together with lessons for playing the solo and rhythm guitar parts for each song. Blues guitar solo and rhythm techniques lessons as well as an animated music glossary are linked to the songs and lessons, so that the guitarist learns technique and theory while playing the songs. *Play Blues Guitar* utilizes the power of MIDI with an animated fretboard that displays the finger positions used to play the guitar licks that appear in the songs. With features such as tempo control and looping, the fretboard helps guitarists to play at their own pace and more easily learn to play blues guitar. (\$53.95) Play Music, Inc., 11320 Chandler

Bldv., Suite G, North Hollywood, CA 91601. 1-800-887-PLAY.

DigiDay Calendar

The first DigiDay calendar program from Vision X Software is 365 Days of Great Words to Know. This CD-ROM presents you with a new "power word" each day. You can optionally direct the program to pronounce the word. It also offers several ways of reinforcing the meaning of the words. You can direct the program to quiz you one or more times throughout the



day on previous days' words. You can set the program's screen saver to provide a colorful display of the most difficult words. Finally, with the help of twelve fictional characters, each with their own quirky personality, you can see the words used in sample sentences. It also provides a reminder and to-do system for events such as birthdays and anniversaries, an alarm system that you can use for appointments, and a clock that you can keep visible no matter what other programs you have running. The DigiDay calendar runs for a full year, no matter when you install it. (\$12.99) Vision X Software, Inc., 761 Sproul Rd., #211, Springfield, PA 19064. (610)892-9766.

Lines In The Sand: The Pursuit Of Peace In The Middle East

Using CD-ROM and the Internet as the storytelling tools, a veteran foreign correspondent helps unravel some of the mysteries of the Middle East. This Mac/Win CD combines video, graphics, and a vast library of text on the Middle East, allowing



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A450CT	486DX4/75	4MB	340MB	Active Clr	\$2348.
A450C	486DX4/75	4MB	340MB	Dual Scan	\$1798.
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T1950CT	486DX2/40	4MB	200MB	8.4" Active Clr	\$1798.
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T2105CS	486DX2/50	4MB	330MB	10.4" Dual Scan	\$1698.
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T2400CT	486DX2/50	8MB	250MB	8.4" Active Clr	\$1798.
T2450CT	486DX4/75	8MB	320MB	9.5" Active Clr	\$1998.
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T2130CT	486DX4/75	8MB	520MB	10.4" Active Clr	\$2798.
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T400CS	Pentium™/75	8MB	810MB	10.4" Dual Scan	\$2898.
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4000CT	486DX4/100	4MB	520MB	10.4" Active Clr	\$3098.
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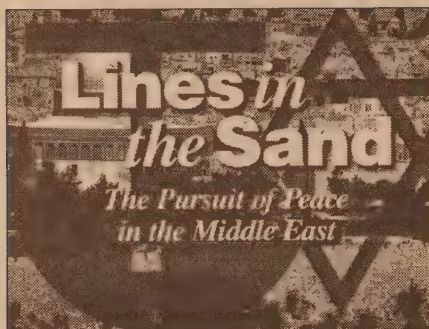
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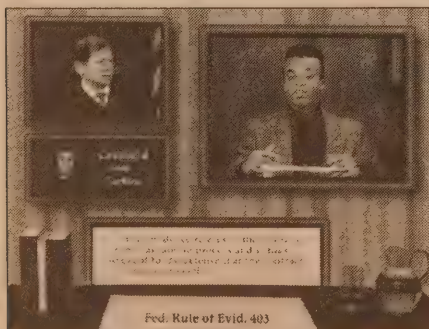
New Products...



users to explore issues and ideas in great detail. Its companion Web site features online discussion groups on Middle East topics, plus regular updates to the information on the CD-ROM. Viewpoints are presented from activists, politicians, and opinion leaders in the Arab and Israeli camps, both radical and moderate. Context is provided with historical timelines and extensive background articles and documents. (\$49.95; volume and educational discounts are available) Tiger Media, Inc., 1040 7th Ave. SW, #140, Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 3G9. (403)531-2920. URL: <http://www.tiger.ab.ca/mideast/>.

Interactive Courtroom

The Interactive Courtroom, a unique legal skills training program, gives users real-time experience in witness examinations and client interviews. The CD features a panel of distinguished legal experts, such as well-known attorney Howard Weitzman, federal defender Terence MacCarthy, former federal judge Barbara Caulfield, and



skills trainer Tim Hallahan. These legal mentors are available for context-specific video commentary on tactics and techniques throughout the program. The Interactive Courtroom includes hypertext

links to pertinent provisions of the Federal Rules of Evidence, as well as to rules and statutes for twenty-two states. It is approved for MCLE credit in many states. (\$295, for Macintosh and Windows) CLE Group, Inc., 695 Oak Grove Ave., #2C, Menlo Park, CA 94025. (415)324-1827, 1-800-373-1829.

The Electronic Giecks' Engineering Formulas

First published in 1967 and now in its sixth edition, *Giecks' Engineering Formulas* is an invaluable resource of fundamental formulas and data for engineers. With a fully interactive interface powered by MathSoft, Inc.'s MathCad engine, the Windows-based *Electronic Giecks'* is a complete engineering reference that solves the most time-consuming technical calculations instantly. Indispensable for engineers, engineering students, and other professionals, the *Electronic Giecks'* provides powerful navigational tools for full-text searching. It allows access to information through multiple paths, including the table of contents, index, and hypertext linking. In addition, Interactive math allows the user to perform calculations and test results with different input variables. (CD-ROM version, \$79.95; diskette version, \$89.95; CD-ROM/book package, \$99.95) McGraw-Hill, Inc., 11 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011.

A Chilean Affair/Une Aventure Chilienne



Until General Pinochet overthrew the democratically elected government of President Allende, Chile enjoyed the longest-reigning democracy in South America. *A Chilean Affair* is the story of

John Cassagne, a journalist assigned to cover Pope John Paul II's visit to Chile in 1987. His story is told in black-and-white photographs and narration, in both French and English. As you listen to his adventure you will experience the different mechanisms of the Pinochet dictatorship. Cassagne shares his emotions as he falls in love with a country fighting against repression. For those interested in Latin American history, this CD provides the details of one of the events that served as a major catalyst for change leading to the restoration of democracy in Chile. (\$39.95 for Macintosh and Windows) D&D Computers, Inc., 1405 SW 107 Ave., Suite 301-D, Miami, FL 33174. 1-800-816-6848.

Man Ray



Man Ray (1890-1976) was a pioneering painter and photographer in the Dada, surrealist, and abstract art movements of the 1920s and 1930s. After founding the New York Dada movement, Ray moved (1921) to Paris, where he became portrait photographer to the intellectual avant-garde. At the same time he experimented with camera-less photographic techniques. His "rayograph" was made by placing objects on sensitized paper, which was then exposed to light. This new CD contains over six hundred photographs of the famous surrealist artist. The portfolio contains a selection of his principal photographs that cover a multitude of facets, including many of his rayographs. Also included are: a complete biography, examples of his work broken down into four different time periods, and a thirty-minute commentary by Man Ray himself (in French) with explanations and interviews.

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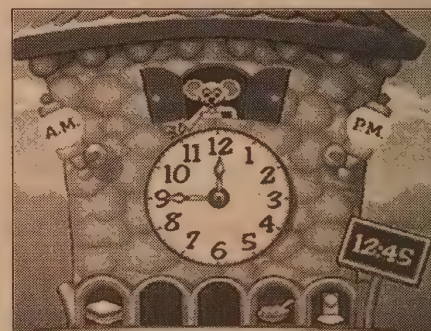
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New Products...

(\$39.95 for Macintosh and Windows; photos are in Kodak Photo CD format) D&D Computers, Inc., 1405 SW 107 Ave., Suite 301-D, Miami, FL 33174. 1-800-816-6848.

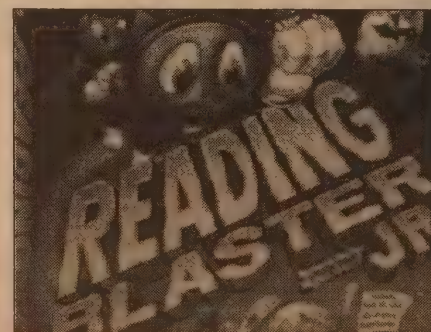
Kids Software Fisher-Price Ready For School

Fisher-Price Ready for School, new multimedia software for children ages three to six inspired by Fisher-Price's "Talking Smart Street" toy, prepares youngsters for their first school experience with ten fun-filled games. Each uses funny characters, whimsical animations, and original music to help children build early-learning skills such as telling time; identifying the seasons; recognizing letters; learning about safety and manners; and identifying numbers,



shapes, and colors. The set includes two Windows-based CD-ROMs and four books that allow children to practice the skills presented in the software in different ways, thereby furthering the learning process. (\$50) Davidson & Associates, Inc., 19840 Pioneer Ave., Torrance, CA 90503. (310)793-0660.

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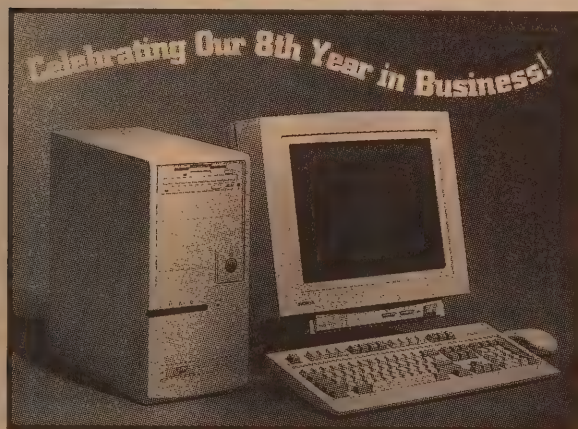
Sys Technology, Inc.

Mars Computers (a DBA of Sys Technology, Inc.) has been serving the greater Los Angeles, Orange County, and Riverside/San Bernardino area for nearly four years. Sys Technology, Inc. is celebrating its eighth year in business serving corporate, small business, and professional system users worldwide. Thanks to excellent business on the Sys Technology side of the house and ever increasing demands on our Sys Technology sales, production, and support staff, we have decided to consolidate business operations under the Sys Technology name effective November 1, 1995. ALL Mars technical support and warranty work will, from that date, be handled by Sys Technology. ALL Mars on-site service obligations will also be handled by Sys Technology.

We regret any inconvenience this change in focus will have on our extensive Mars Computers customer base. However, we find it imperative that we take these steps to ensure that we do not miss the opportunities currently available to Sys Technology in an ever expanding market for Sys Technology products. Under this new focus we will be supporting Mars customer from the Sys Technology headquarters office and main production facility in Cypress. Mars customers should contact that facility.

With the November issue of *MicroTimes* we will be advertising and marketing only Sys Technology's FCC class B certified "Sys Performance" and "Sys Business" systems. Sys Performance systems have been advertised in *PC Magazine* and have won acclaim from that publication, including Editors' Choice and other awards. In the September 26 issue of *PC Magazine* one of our Sys Performance P133T systems was awarded an Honorable Mention for its "superb job of optimizing (its) cutting-edge components" and producing the "best Winstone 95 score in this (66 system) roundup" - and the highest Winstone 95 score they have recorded for a Pentium® processor 133MHz system. One of these systems was also very favorably reviewed in *Computer Shopper* (October issue). More data follows below. Bottom line, if you're looking for truly top performance, we're the place to call or visit!

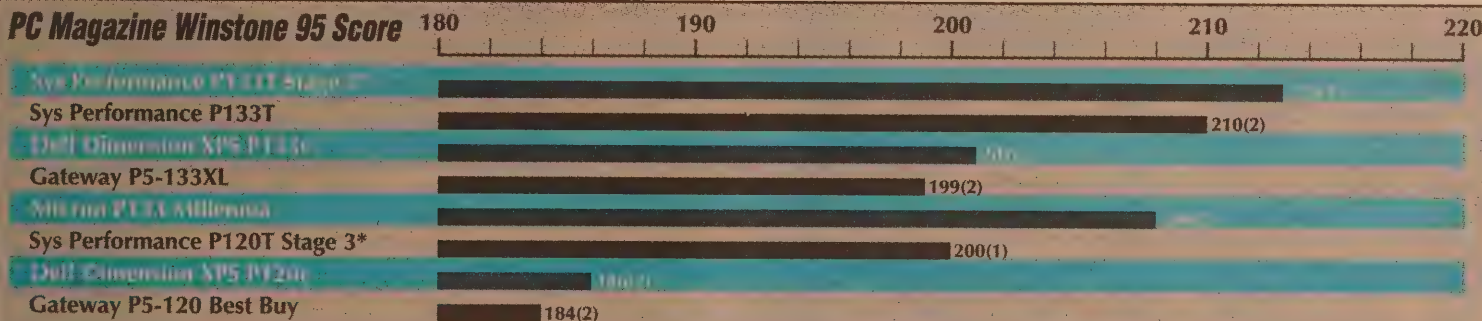
We look forward to serving you and thank our many loyal Mars customers for their understanding during our transition to *A New Focus*.



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PC Magazine Winstone 95 Score



(1) Based on in-house testing; average of three tests. (2) PC Magazine article, September 26, 1995.
* With the following extra-cost options -- EDO DRAM, 512K burst cache, and Mode 4 EIDE hard drive.

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Fun And Games: The 3rd Annual Holiday Gift Guide

New Products...

build words phonetically, recognize important words, and build comprehensive skills. The Blaster characters—Blasteronaut, G.C. (the Galactic Commander), and Spot—guide children through five progressively challenging units. As children complete the program's five units, they move up through the ranks from a Phonic Ranger to a Big Time Galactic Reader. The program provides two modes of play, so parents can choose the learning style best suited for their children. The directed sequence mode allows children to build their reading skills progressively, while the free-play mode allows children to learn through exploration and discovery. (\$35) Davidson & Associates, Inc., 19840 Pioneer Ave., Torrance, CA 90503. (310)793-0660.

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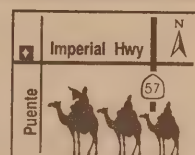
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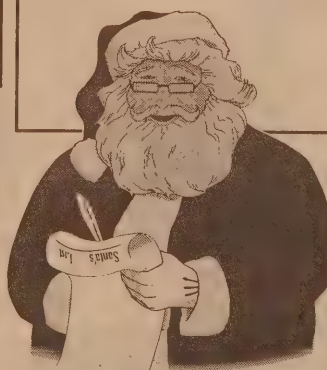
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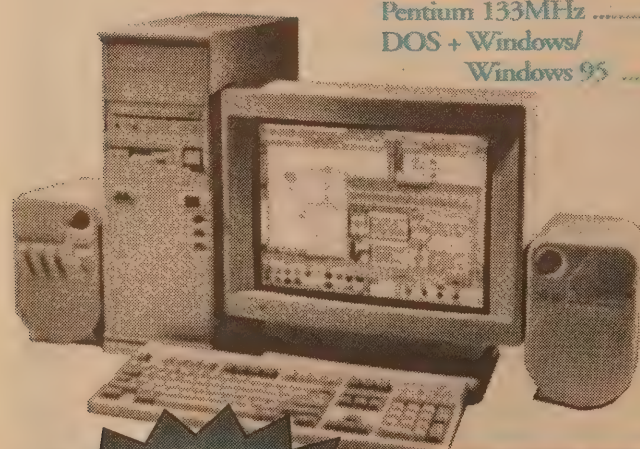
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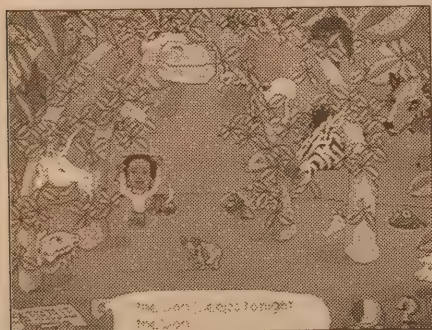
Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

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ence what composing music is like before embarking on a formal music education. Without any training or vocabulary (there's no text at all), kids can experiment with the fundamental components of music: instrumentation, scale, and rhythm. They can mess around until they are satisfied, just as real composers do in a studio. And along the way, they learn about how the language of music works. (\$39.95 for Macintosh and Windows) The Voyager Co., 378 Broadway, Suite 406, New York, NY 10012. (212)431-5199. URL: <http://www.voyagerco.com/>.

Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing! For Kids

Designed for children ages four to seven, Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing! for Kids stars a spunky young Mavis and her dog, Dizzy, who take children on an adventure to Grandma and Grandpa's house, where



they learn letter recognition, basic typing skills, and keyboarding skills. The program uses digitized speech rather than text commands to accommodate beginning readers and reinforce the recognition of letters and sounds. Special attention is also paid to little hands and motor skills of growing children. It allows for multiple users and includes three levels to keep kids challenged as their skills grow. A special KidLock keeps children from accessing other files on the computer. Additional features include big, easy-to-read letters, original music, and easily accessible help and exit buttons. (\$30, CD-ROM for

Macintosh and PC) Mindscape, Inc., 88 Rowland Way, Novato, CA 94945. (415)897-9900.

Fisher-Price Sing-Alongs—Barnyard Rhythms And Moos



In Sing-Alongs, children ages three to seven explore this familiar farm with animal characters, listen to and sing along with animated music videos featuring twenty original and classic songs, and build early reading skills. Three musical games introduce youngsters to the farm: Music Videos, Click-and-Explore, and Sing-Along Songs. To help parents, the CD includes illustrated "Parents Tips," which explain the software's development philosophy, offer advice from education experts, and provide insights on how music and rhythm advance a child's linguistic and motor skills. The tips also provide suggestions for parental involvement with additional, noncomputer activities to enhance what their children have learned. (\$30, CD-ROM for Windows and Macintosh; lab packs for schools are available through Davidson Educational Resources for \$149.95) Davidson & Associates, Inc., 19840 Pioneer Ave., Torrance, CA 90503. 1-800-545-7677.

The Multimedia Workshop

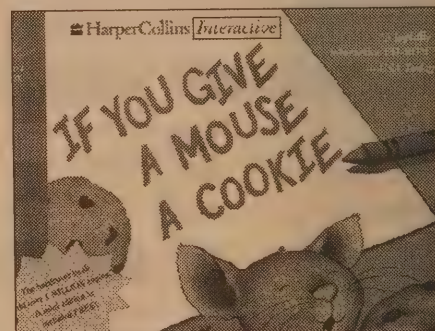
The Multimedia Workshop is a tool for creat-

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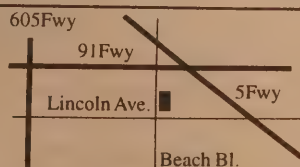
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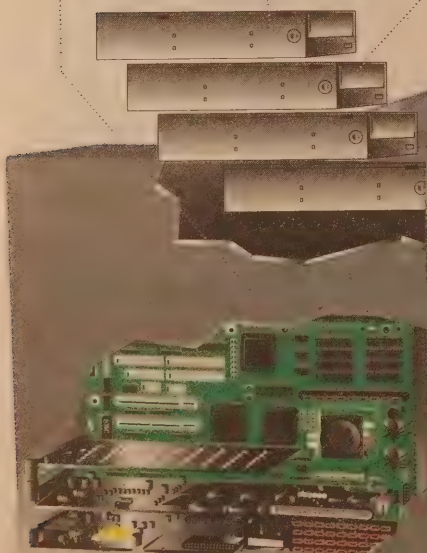
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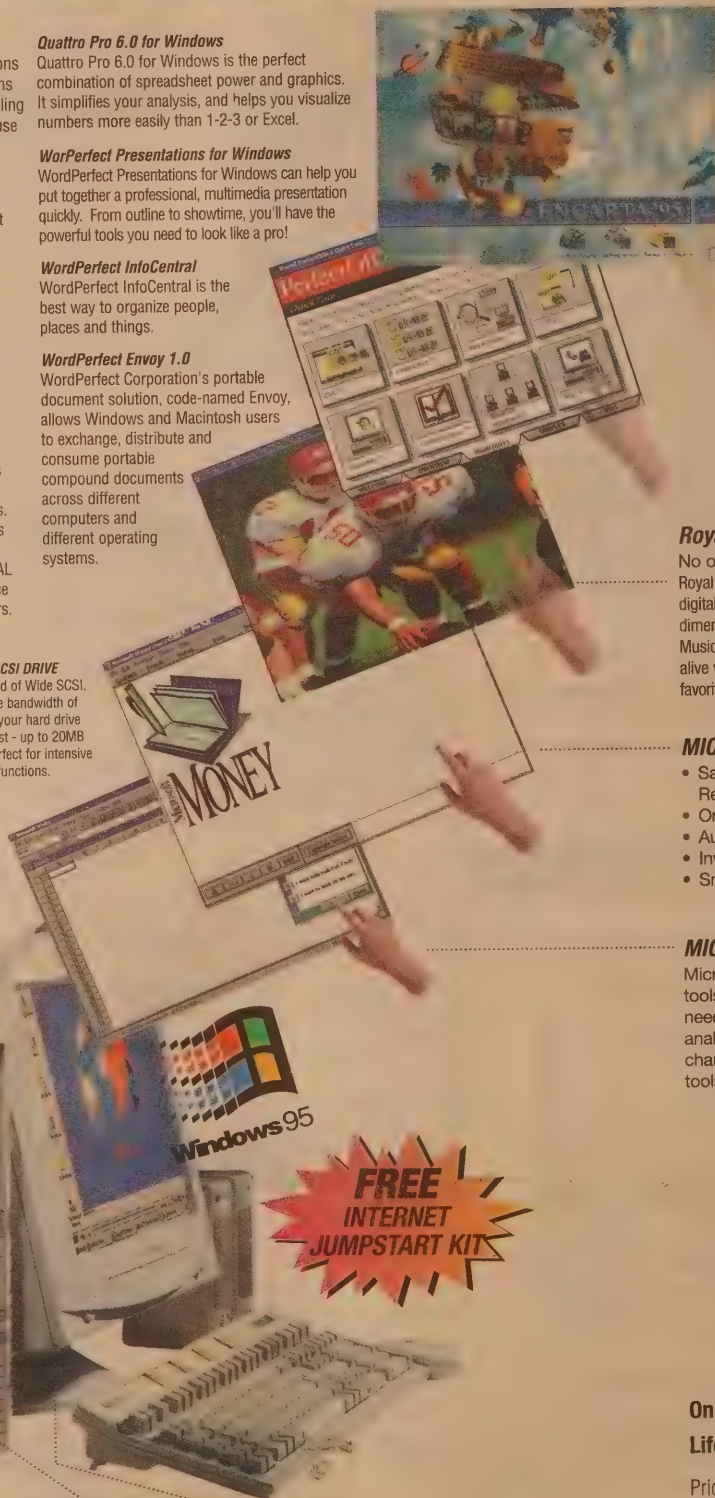


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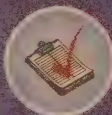
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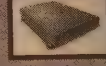
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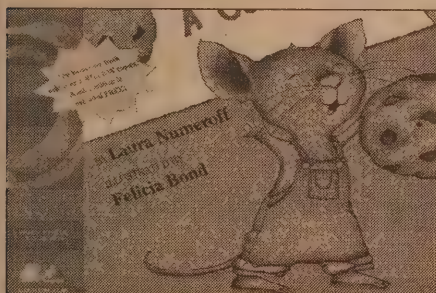
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual} 3rd Holiday Gift Guide

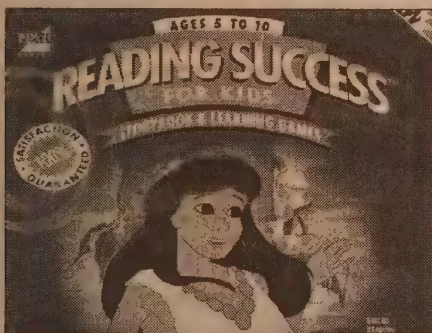
New Products...

explore this interactive world for hours. For instance, when they click on a cookie jar, out pops a cookie recipe; if they click on the ingredients, more surprises follow. The hybrid CD features new episodes and



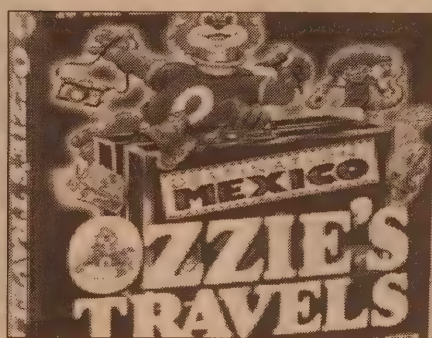
art by the book's authors and comes packaged with a hardcover minibook. (\$39.95) HarperCollins Interactive, 10 E. 53rd St., New York, NY 10022. (212)207-7000.

Pocahontas



The *Pocahontas* hybrid CD launches the new Reading Success for Kids series from Pixel Genius Entertainment. Designed to make the learning process fun and easy for children ages five to ten, this interactive storybook brings to life one of the world's best-loved stories, with exquisite hand-painted illustrations, enchanting music, and fun-filled animations. Each storybook combines over one hundred pages of text and nearly four hundred clickable vocabulary words. In addition, each chapter of the story is followed by two exciting games that teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills. (\$39.95) Pixel Genius Entertainment, Inc., 13128 Valleyheart Dr., Studio City, CA 91604. (818)905-3208.

Ozzie's Travels Destination: Mexico

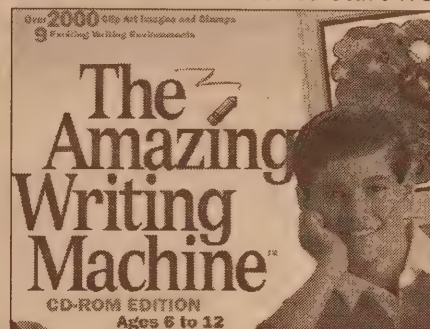


This hybrid Mac/PC CD-ROM leads children (ages five to ten) on a fun-filled treasure hunt while teaching them about geography and cultural diversity through stories, games, and hands-on activities. Ozzie's Travels takes Ozzie S. Cutter, a young otter, and his friends on a thoroughly entertaining journey to Mexico. There are five games, each with an entertaining lesson about Mexican culture. Each game is available in three skill levels to accommodate different ages and abilities. Ozzie's Travels also leads children through playtime projects. Families follow step-by-step instructions, creating things like an Aztec calendar, a piñata, tortillas, and a pyramid. In addition, for younger children, there is a paint program for colorizing a variety of pictures, as well as a color bomb. (\$24.95) Digital Impact, Inc., 6506 S. Lewis, Suite 250, Tulsa, OK 74136-1047. (918)742-2022.

The Amazing Writing Machine

The Amazing Writing Machine is an inventive writing, illustration, and idea-generating program for kids six to twelve, encouraging them to write and publish their own stories, journals, poems, essays, and letters. Designed for use with Windows or Macintosh and incorporating the familiar Kid Pix interface, The Amazing Writing Machine combines writing, drawing, and desktop publishing tools into a single, easy-to-use program. Kids begin their creative endeavors with the Project Picker,

which lets them select their writing form: Story, Letter, Essay, Journal, or Poem. Once a project is selected, the child can choose between two ways to write: the Write Mode allows the writer to start from



scratch, while the Spin Mode provides clickable interchangeable words and phrases that make writing more exciting. (\$45 for CD-ROM, \$35 for floppies) Brøderbund Software, Inc., 500 Redwood Blvd., Novato, CA 94948-6121. (415)382-7818.

Explorers Of The New World



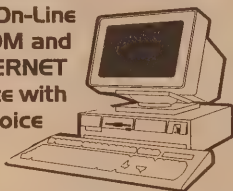
The *Explorers of the New World* CD-ROM brings to life the adventures of more than sixty explorers. With hours of video and animation, the CD (for Windows and Macintosh) allows users to travel with live actors portraying three of the most famous—Christopher Columbus, Hernando Cortes, and Ferdinand Magellan—on their historic journeys, and learn about the discoveries of their contemporaries. There are three fully interactive 3-D environments, as well as interactive maps, a timeline, a database of information on more than sixty explorers, animated learning sections, and a period-authentic musical score. (\$49.95) Future

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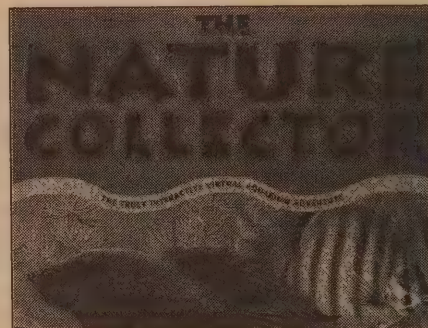
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Kiyeko And The Lost Night



Narrated by Ben Kingsley, *Kiyeko and the Lost Night* is part interactive adventure, part educational tool for kids four and up. The story takes users on a stroll through Amazonia, home to a little boy named Kiyeko who must save his village from two snakes who have stolen the night. The Mac and Windows CD features movie-quality animation, professional acting, authentic settings, click-on animations, and an enchanting original music score, and comes with a picture book of Amazonia. In addition, users can opt to hear the

continued on page 216

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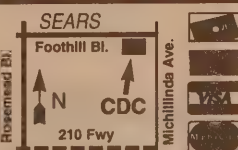
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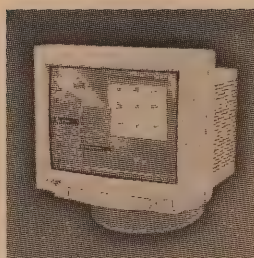
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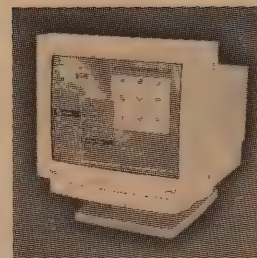
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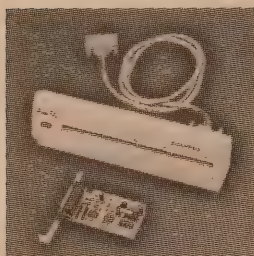
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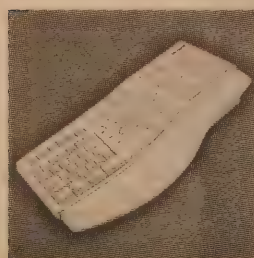
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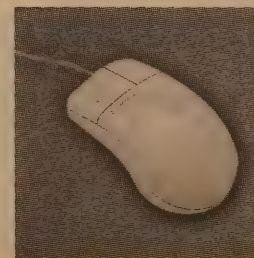
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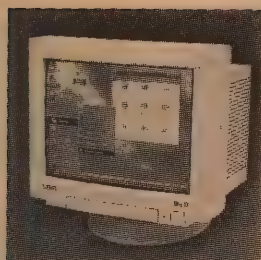
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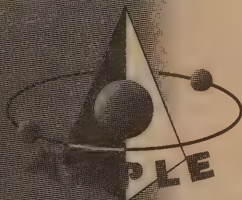




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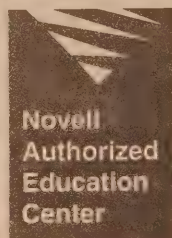
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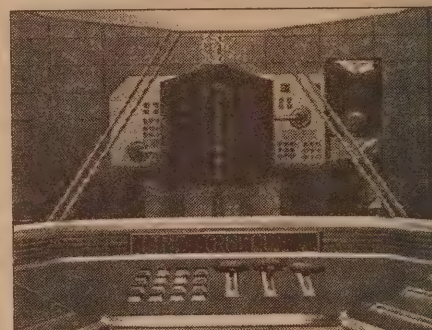
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New Products...continued from page 212

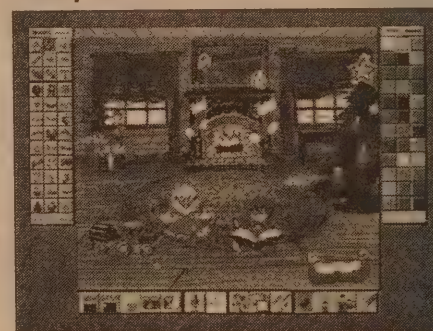
story in English, French, Spanish, Italian, or German and can listen to the entire story or advance at their own pace. (\$39.95) Ubi Soft Entertainment, 80 E. Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Suite 3E, Larkspur, CA 94939. (415)464-4440.

Reading SEARCH



Reading SEARCH, In Search of the Lost Folktales is a reading comprehension program that sends the player back to ancient times as a field agent on a mission in search of folktales. By interacting with more than forty characters, the student must fulfill his or her mission of bringing back folktales to the Society to Explore and Archive Really Cool History (SEARCH) by gathering clues, collecting artifacts, and solving reading problems. Players visit a Mayan town, a Tlinget village, and a palace in China during the Tang Dynasty, dealing with aesthetic, ethical, and cultural issues while learning vocabulary, plot, characterization, setting, meaning, and ideas. (\$69.95, Macintosh and Windows CD-ROM) Great Wave Software, 5353 Scotts Valley Dr., Scotts Valley, CA 95066. (408)438-1990.

Suzy's Zoo Holiday Fun!



Suzy's Zoo Holiday Fun! is the fifth in a series of fun, educational, and interactive software programs from Gryphon Software for children three to ten. It is based on the Colorforms concept of creating artwork by mixing and matching existing stick-on shapes and images and affixing them to various thematic backgrounds. There are five different modules that feature favorite holidays such as Valentine's Day, Easter, Fourth of July, and Christmas. With over 120 different shapes, each module provides a palette

continued on page 226

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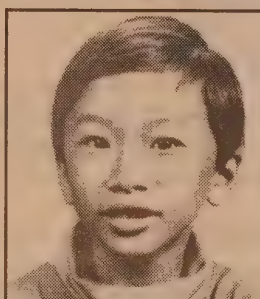
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Date Missing: 7-18-91
Missing From: N. Vancouver
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Brown Eyes



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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual} 3rd Holiday Gift Guide

seaQuest continued from page 30

excess cleavage, and a singing rock star whose eyes glowed whenever her body was "possessed" by the female god, Minerva.

One viewer, Evelyn from Kansas, wrote in protest that "good characters have been exchanged for cheap gimmicks, and the emphasis has changed from science fact to cheesy fantasy." Nancy Pribanich, a key strategist in the campaign, called NBC "the network that forces its viewers—and its most distinguished star—to beg for quality."

In defense of the show, Javier Grillo-Marxuach, the NBC executive who oversees the series, said in an email message to the campaign clearinghouse that *seaQuest* pulled in ratings much more consistently than last year and has "turned on the lights in a difficult time slot." But, he says, "If the viewers are passionate and motivated enough to put forth a considered opinion, the best I can say is that I am listening."

"Viewers won't accept a few crumbs of change," replied Jen Lui-Grushka, President of CapeQuest, the largest and most well-respected of the *seaQuest* fan clubs.

Future Uncertain

Will this campaign change forever the way networks interact with their viewers? The campaign has argued that the show's third season, the critical one that enables wealth-producing syndication, will sink or swim on the basis of better writing—and they offered many specific proposals to be implemented by the new team of writers they felt should be brought in to revamp. So far, the NBC brass has turned a deaf ear to the interactive Internet-based feedback—and the ratings for the few episodes shown to date in the new season have been abysmal.

"We have a singular goal, which is the improvement of *seaQuest*," says one online

campaign participant. "However, in this age of global communication technology, networks ignore viewers at their peril. And they are very out of touch. Viewers can infiltrate and rock the boat in any market."

The online Davids are taking on two Goliaths, NBC and Amblin. Viewers are angry and disappointed—to say nothing of being well organized and smart. And they have every intention of snapping at some heels. The petition—and regular flow of action bulletins—have been posted on many of the Internet's newsgroups, including alt.tv.seaquest, sci.geo.oceanography, rec.arts.sf.tv.

The petition is also posted in the sci-fi television areas of AOL and CompuServe. The campaign's email address is maryflr@best.com. Their Web page address is <http://www.best.com/~maryflr/P1-Intro.html>. ■

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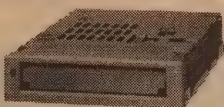
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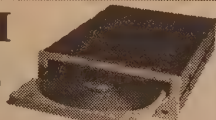
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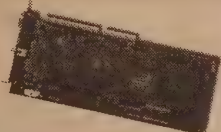
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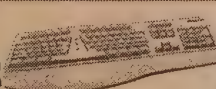
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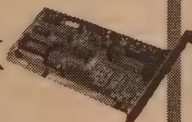
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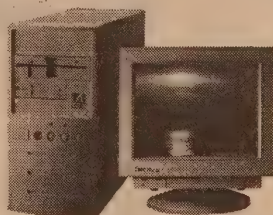
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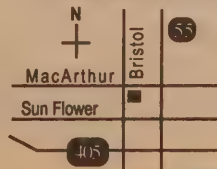
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Trident 8900 SVGA w/1MB 1024x768 / Oak 087 \$56
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Trident 9440 PCI (1MB) \$82
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Adaptec 2842 VLB SCSI H/F w/Kit / w/Kit \$198/230
Adaptec 2940 PCI SCSI Ctrl / 2940 PCI w/Kit \$190/245
Adaptec 2940W PCI Wide SCSI without / with Kit \$219/Call

Note: Kit Includes Novel, Unix, and misc. drivers (w/Kit refers to ctrl card only)

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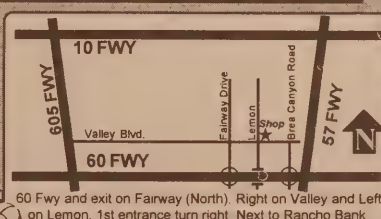
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

Holiday PC Shareware Roundup continued from page 48



Fuzzy's World of Miniature Space Golf

The game requires 4MB of RAM, an 80386 or better CPU, 4MB of hard disk space, and a VGA monitor. A Creative Labs Sound Blaster-compatible card is required for music.

Epic's Deep Sea Pinball: Deep Sea Pinball is a multilevel pinball arcade game for DOS with a deep-sea motif. It is one of a series of Epic pinball tables, with motifs varying from Androids, Magic, and Toy Factory to Cybergirls.

Pinball gizmos included are drop targets, mul-

THE MINIMUM HARDWARE BASELINE FOR CURRENT PC SHAREWARE HAS ALSO BEEN BUMPED UP GRADUALLY. YOU'LL NEED A VGA MONITOR DISPLAY, 80386 OR 80486 CPU, AND A FEW MEGABYTES OF EXTENDED MEMORY TO RUN ANY OF THE PACKAGES WE DISCUSS HERE.

tilevel playfields, ball-return gates, spinners, and a multiple-ball bonus mode. An LED display shows your cumulative score and which of the various bonus options are active, as your ball bounces around the 256-color VGA table. The screen animation runs at an impressive 60 frames per second. Periodically, certain timed event bonus windows open on the screen—shark attack, shipwreck, etc.—and you earn more bonus points by directing balls to specific values.

This shareware demo contains one pinball

table. Each complete, registered, Epic pinball pack contains four tables. The package runs from a DOS prompt and requires 500K of conventional memory and a VGA monitor. Background sound effects and music require a Creative Labs Sound Blaster-compatible or Gravis Ultrasound card. Epic sells four additional pinball packs with other table motifs. ■

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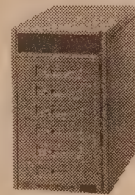
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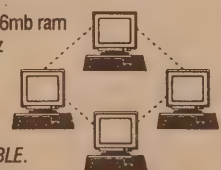
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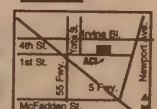
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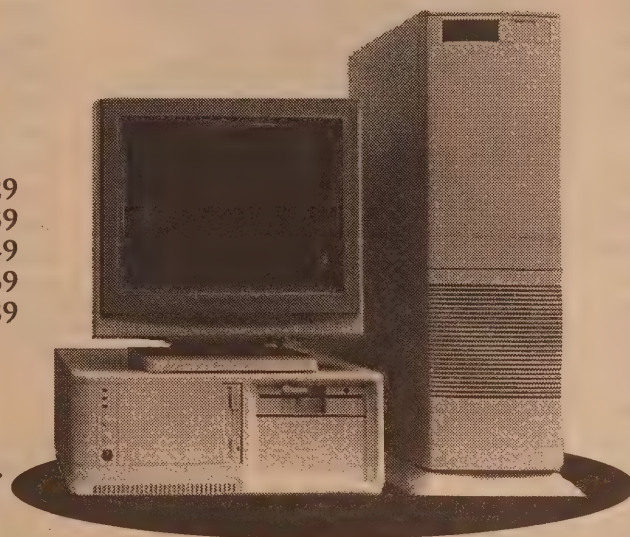
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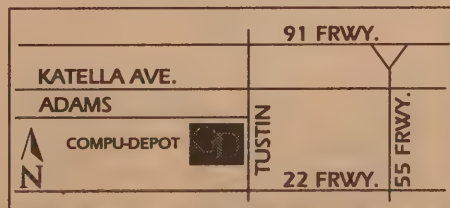
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New Products...continued from page 216

of instantly recognizable shapes and figures associated with that particular theme. In addition, there are sound, color, and texture options. (\$49) Gryphon Software Corp., 7220 Trade St., Suite 120, San Diego, CA 92121. (619)536-8815.

World Discovery Deluxe

World Discovery Deluxe, an entertaining, interactive global geography and history program, tests the user's knowledge of geography, politics, and historical people, places, and events and includes more than seventy-five maps from around the globe. Each highly graphical map can display countries, states, cities, mountain ranges, rivers, lakes, seas, oceans, and other geographical information. *World Discovery Deluxe* offers full-color topographical maps including the famous cloudless satellite view of earth by Tom Van Sant and the Geosphere Project. The user learns

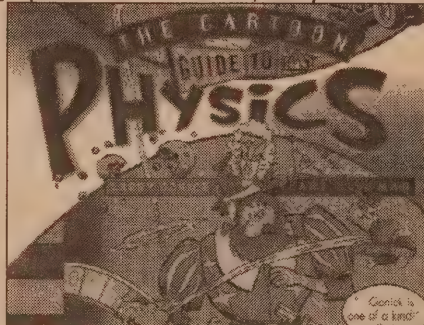


geography through twelve customizable interactive games and activities. Learning is reinforced through speech options that are provided for the majority of native languages for countries and capital cities as well as local greetings and the pronunciation of the names of many states and provinces. (\$64.95, for Macintosh and Windows) Great Wave Software, 5353 Scotts Valley Dr., Scotts Valley, CA 95066. (408)438-1990.

Cartoon Guide To Physics

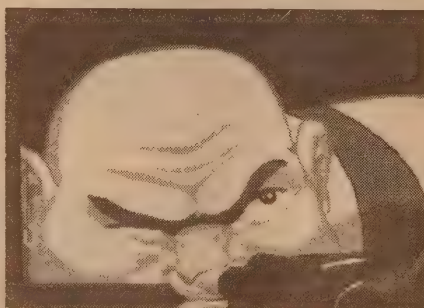
HarperCollins Interactive's *The Cartoon Guide to Physics* is an entertaining CD-ROM for both Macintosh and Windows that uses interactive cartoons to help kids have fun while learning about physics. With brilliant

graphics and animation, Larry Gonick and



Art Hoffman's *Cartoon Guide to Physics* CD demonstrates important concepts of physics and allows the user to explore and experiment with those principals. There are four different categories: Hall of Fame, where users learn about famous physicists throughout history; the Glossary of terms; Lucy's World, where astronaut Lucy explains complicated physics concepts in clear layman's terms; and The Workshop, where users can put the principals they learned in Lucy's World to practice. (\$49.95) HarperCollins Interactive, 10 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022. (212)207-7000.

Games Full Throttle



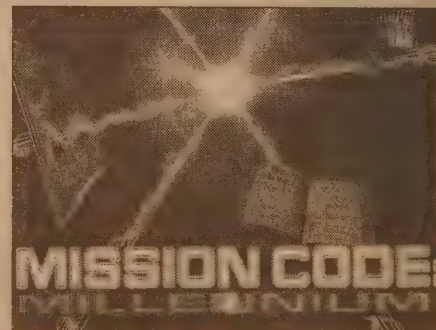
Full Throttle CD-ROM for the Macintosh is the story of Ben, a hard-core biker and leader of a motorcycle gang called the Polecats who is framed for the murder of Malcolm Corley. Corely founded Corely Motors, the last manufacturer of the bikes that sustain Ben's way of life. Separated from his gang and on the run from the law, Ben must hunt down the true killer, clear his name, and convince Corley's

rebellious daughter, Maureen, to help save a threatened institution. This highly cinematic adventure mixes third- and first-person perspectives, uses a variety of camera angles to create dramatic effects, and seamlessly blends 3-D and 2-D animation to impose a sense of realism in an animated, surrealistic setting. Full Throttle Macintosh CD requires a 68040 or PowerPC with 8MB of RAM and a double-speed CD-ROM drive. (\$54) LucasArts Entertainment Co., PO Box 43070, San Rafael, CA 94912. (415)721-3300.

Caesar II

Caesar II PC CD-ROM presents a city building simulation that brings the best of the ancient world to high-tech life and offers an easy-to-use interface and an optional no-combat mode. Step into your role as Governor of a province in the early days of the Roman Empire. Your challenge is to become the next Caesar. To achieve this goal you must build eternal cities—be sure your citizens are educated and entertained, keep your cities free from plague and riot, and prevent invading barbarians from ruining your day. Caesar II uses an extensive online reference section, full sound track, dozens of authentic Roman structures, and numerous animations to bring the Roman Empire to life. (\$69.95) Sierra On-Line, Inc., 3380 146th Place SE, Suite 300, Bellevue, WA 98007. (206)649-9800.

Mission Code: Millennium



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- DIAMOND STEALTH 64 VIDEO PCI 2MB DRAM GRAPHIC ACCELERATOR
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- 101 ENHANCED KEYBOARD
- HI RESOLUTION MOUSE AND MOUSE PAD
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- SOUND BLASTER 16 BIT SOUND CARD
- MICROSOFT ENCARTA, WORKS, DANGEROUS CREATURES, GOLF & ENTERTAINMENT PAK
- 170 WATT SPEAKERS
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- 2 SERIAL, 1 PARALLEL AND 1 GAME PORT
- ADAPTEC 2940 WIDE PCI/SCSI CONTROLLER
- DIAMOND STEALTH 64 VIDEO PCI w/2MB VRAM
- CTX 1785 GME 17" .26 DIGITAL MONITOR (1600x1280)
- MID TOWER CASE W/250W POWER SUPPLY
- MICROSOFT KEYBOARD (WIN 95)
- MICROSOFT MOUSE AND MOUSE PAD
- MID TOWER CASE W/250 WATT POWER SUPPLY
- NEC 512 HEX SPEED (6X) SCSI CD ROM
- SOUND BLASTER 16 BIT SOUND CARD
- MICROSOFT ENCARTA, WORKS, DANGEROUS CREATURES, GOLF & ENTERTAINMENT PAK
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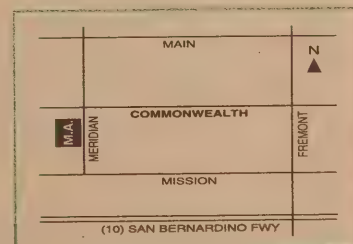
• ML-691 25 WATT SPEAKERS	\$ 20.00
• MS-305 40 WATT SPEAKERS	\$ 25.00
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual}3rd Holiday Gift Guide

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explore important developments in history, literature, and the arts over the past thousand years. It puts the player in the role of a "Virtual Time Traveler," assigned to solve sixteen different missions in a quest to replace authentic stolen objects (over one hundred in all)—blueprints for the Tower of Pisa, works of Shakespeare, and paintings by Rembrandt, for instance—back to their proper chronological place in history. (\$35) Virtual Entertainment, Inc., 2803 Valley Dr., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. (310)545-1960.

Into The Void

Into the Void is a strategy game where players use their skills as negotiators, navigators, statesmen, and warriors to create federations that will ensure the survival of their species. Up to ten players may compete via serial modems, local area networks, and the Internet through email. To begin, players agree upon a universe size ranging from a few to hundreds of solar systems, then select from one to six human and alien races—each with a unique set of attributes. Success is determined by a points system based on the style of game each player secretly selects, including negotiation of treaties, establishment of trade routes, enemy annihilation, and spreading of ideologies. The first player to reach a predetermined number of points wins the game. (49.95) Playmates Interactive Entertainment, Inc., 16200 Trojan Way, La Mirada, CA 90638. (714)562-1743.

Ascendancy

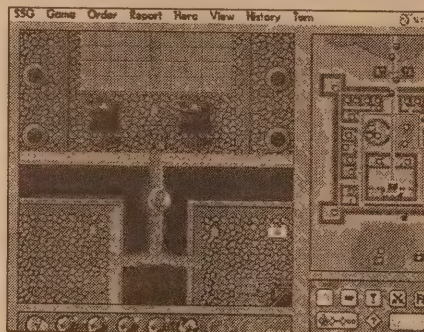


Ascendancy is a galactic strategy game of exploration and encounter. The game requires as much skill in diplomacy, exploration, and discovery as it does in inter-

stellar tactics by placing the player in the midst of a galaxy full of alien species. As the game begins, the player is in charge of a single race inhabiting a planet in an unknown galaxy. The player's challenge is to cultivate their own planet's resources and to discover and build inventions necessary to explore other planets and other species. Targeted to adults (ages 18-44), Ascendancy runs on a 486DX 33MHz or higher under MS-DOS 5.5 or higher with double-speed CD-ROM. (\$49.95) The Logic Factory, 100 Dolores St., #251, Carmel, CA 93923. (408)625-5777. Distributed by Brøderbund, 1-800-521-6263.

Warlords II Deluxe CD-ROM

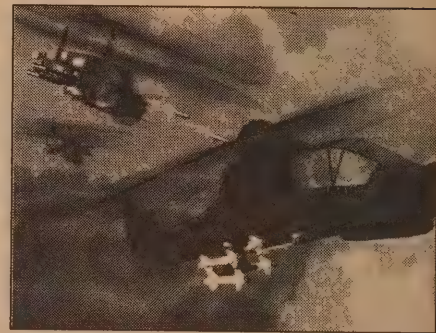
Warlords II Deluxe features an upgraded version of Warlords II, with enhancements such as network play, an improved Scenario Builder, plus sixty new scenarios.



Additional new features include improvements to Warlords II game options, an improved movement system for faster game play, an undo function for movement, new underground scenarios, and a new music score. Warlords II Deluxe requires a 386 or better (486 recommended) with 4MB of RAM, 2MB of expanded RAM available, and a CD-ROM drive. (\$69.95) Strategic Studies Group, 3186 Hyde Park Pl., Pensacola, FL 32503.

Werewolf Vs. Comanche

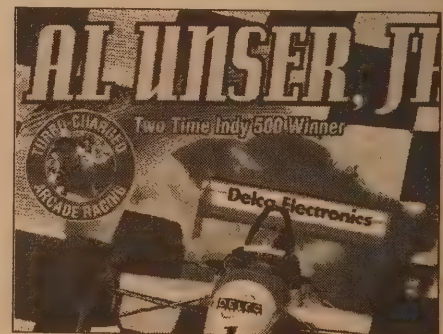
This PC CD-ROM consists of two helicopter combat simulation games sold together—an updated version of Comanche CD and the entirely new Werewolf. The two-CD



set, which features US and Russian attack helicopters engaging in more than one hundred different combat missions, can be played as individual games or linked together via modem, direct or networked. Werewolf features Russia's Kamov KA-50 Werewolf attack helicopter. Comanche 2.0 features the American Boeing Sikorsky RAH-66 Comanche attack helicopter. NovaLogic's Voxel Space technology, which gives five hundred times more detail than traditional 3-D games, includes haze, shadows, reflective water, translucent smoke, and debris. Each game will allow the pilot to refuel, repair damage, and reload ammunition when they touch down on a landing pad. (\$59.95) NovaLogic, Inc., 26010 Mureau Rd., Ste. 200, Calabasas, CA 91302. (818)880-1997.

Al Unser, Jr. Arcade Racing

In Al Unser, Jr. Arcade Racing, players take



on fifteen of the toughest auto race courses ever created. Designed to make extensive use of Windows 95's multimedia capabilities with 32-bit architecture and high-speed graphics performance, this program presents a white-knuckle, three-

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- 101 Keys Enhanced Keyboard
- A-4 Mouse with Pad
- Windows 95



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PENTIUM 90MHz.....	\$2229
PENTIUM 100MHz.....	\$2269
PENTIUM 120MHz.....	\$2349
PENTIUM 133MHz.....	\$2506



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- Sound Blaster 16 Vibra IDE
- Amplified Speaker & CD Bundle
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- Mini Tower Case w/230W P/S

- 850 MB IDE Hard Drive
- PCI/VLB Diamond STL 64 w/1M Dram
- 14" CTX N.I. Monitor .28 dpi
- 101 Keys Enhanced Keyboard
- A-4 Mouse with Pad
- Windows 95

486DX2-66MHz	\$1379
486DX4-100MHz	\$1399
PENTIUM 75MHz Zappa	\$1590
PENTIUM 90MHz Zappa	\$1680
PENTIUM 100MHz Zappa	\$1800

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VLB: UMC M486/256K/5V/120/272P/IDE-40	90
PCI: SIS PCISA M486/256K/72P/IDE-40	125
UMC PCISA M486/256K/72P/IDE-40	135
SIS/OPPI PCI ISA PENTIUM/50/130MHz/256K/72P	189
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Asus Triton P54P4K 75-133MHz 256K Async. Cache	215
Asus Triton P54P4K 75-133MHz with 256K Pipe-line Cache	325
Asus Triton P54P4K with 512K Pipe-line Burst Cache	415
Triton Chip P 75-133MHz PCISA with IDE-I/O	185

MICROPROCESSORS - CPU

Intel Pentium 133MHz CPU	545
Intel Pentium 120MHz CPU	398
Intel Pentium 100MHz CPU	388
Intel Pentium 90MHz CPU	268
Intel Pentium 75MHz CPU	178
Intel 486DX4-100MHz CPU	125
Intel 486DX2-66MHz CPU	115
AMD 486DX4-120MHz CPU	115
AMD 486DX4-100MHz CPU	105
AMD 486DX2-66MHz CPU	75
AMD 486DX2-66MHz CPU	67
Pentium CPU Cooling Fan	10
486 CPU Cooling Fan	5

MEMORY - RAM

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Simul 4MB (4"9) 30 pin	140
Simul 4MB (1"3) 72 pin	140
Simul 8MB (2"3) 72 pin	280
Simul 16MB (4"3) 72 pin	495
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Diamond Stealth 64 VLB 1MB/2MB Dram (Dem)	135/175
Diamond Stealth 64 VLB 2MB/4MB Vram (Dem)	255/405
ATI Graphics Winbook VLB-64 1MB/2MB Dram	125/169
ATI Graphics Winbook VLB-64 2MB/4MB Vram	239/385
Trident 9440 PCI 1MB/2MB Dram	67/115
Diamond Stealth 64 PCI 1MB/2MB Dram (Dem)	126/168
Diamond Stealth 64 PCI G2001 2MB/4MB Dram	115/165
Diamond Stealth 64 PCI 2MB/4MB Video Vram (Dem)	245/395
ATI Graphics Winbook 2MB/4MB 1MB/2MB Dram	125/169
ATI Graphics Winbook PCI-64 2MB/4MB Vram	239/385
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# 9 Imagine 128 PCI with 4MB Vram (Retail Pak)	769

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VLB IDE with I/O (250pin) (GoldStar)	170
Adaptec 1542CP 16-Bit SCSI-II w/Kits	250
Adaptec 1542CPK plus Core-designed SCSI software	295
Adaptec 2742T ISA SCSI-II (Dem Pak)	215
Adaptec 2742T EISA SCSI-II (Dem Pak)	390
Adaptec 2747K plus Core-designed SCSI software	460
Adaptec 2942K VLB SCSI-II w/Kits	235
Adaptec 2940 PCI SCSI-II (Dem Pak)	178
Adaptec 2940K PCI SCSI-II w/Kits (Dem Pak)	205
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Mitsumi 1.2MB 5.25" Beige	36
Teac 1.44MB 3.5" Beige	33
Mitsumi 1.44MB 3.5" Beige	33
Teac 1.28/1.44 Dual Floppy Drive	89

HARD DISK DRIVES

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Comer CF22107W 2.1GB/5ms/FWS2/512K/200rpm	855
Comer CF2407W 4GB/5ms/FWS2/512K/200rpm	1200
Microplus 4221W 2.1GB/5ms/FWS2/512K/200rpm	1129
Microplus 3243W 4GB/5ms/FWS2/512K/200rpm	1559
Microplus 1991W 9.0GB/12ms/FWS2/1024K/1H	2345
Quantum Atlas XP2150W 2.1GB/5ms/FWS2/1024K	870
Quantum Atlas XP3430W 4.3GB/5ms/FWS2/1024K	1425
Quantum Grandprix GP4301SW 4.3GB/FWS2/8.5ms	785
Quantum Capella VP3210SW 2.2GB/FWS2/8.5ms	1100
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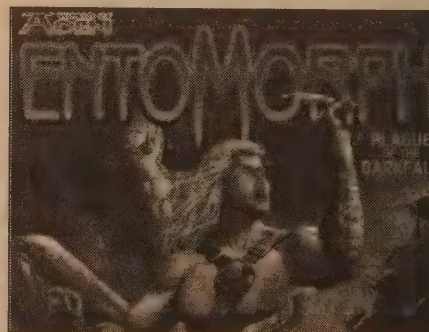
dimensional racing adventure, complete with music and real-life sound effects. Users can become familiar with their car in Training Mode, go head-to-head against a friend via a network hookup in Duel Mode, or race against ten professional drivers in Competition Mode. (\$40, for Windows and Power Mac) Mindscape, Inc., 88 Rowland Way, Novato, CA 94945. (415)897-9900.

The Riddle Of Master Lu



Sanctuary Woods has translated the life of Robert Ripley of *Ripley's Believe It or Not!*, who scoured the world in search of oddities, into a 3-D graphic adventure game called *The Riddle of Master Lu*. The solid story line and challenging puzzles are developed through over two hundred rooms and more than thirty video characters to produce up to one hundred hours of gameplay. The game is set in 1936, as the world is teetering on the brink of war. A powerful talisman, the First Emperor of China's Jade seal, has become the focus of a deadly power struggle that could shift the outcome of global conflict. It is up to the player to help Mr. Ripley and his constant companion, Mei Chen, prevent the seal from falling into the hands of a ruthless enemy. (\$59.95 for DOS CD-ROM, Macintosh version due first quarter '96) Sanctuary Woods, 1825 S. Grant St., San Mateo, CA 94402. 1-800-943-3664.

Entomorph



Entomorph, Plague of the Darkfall is a fantasy role-playing adventure game that takes place in Kyan, part of SSI's World of Aden game world. In Kyan, the citizens are slowly being transformed into grisly giant insects, and the player will suf-

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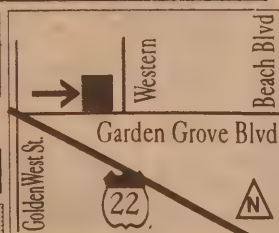
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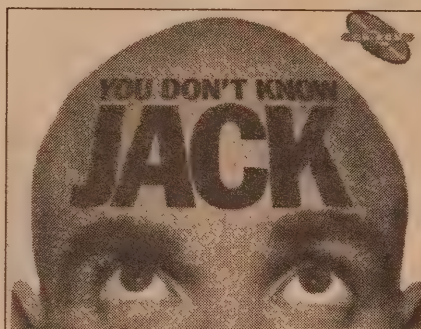
Fun And Games: The ^{Annual} 3rd Holiday Gift Guide

New Products...

fer the same fate unless they do something. Entomorph features high-resolution graphics and bewitching original music. Users can choose to melee up close or cast spells; in addition there are traps and puzzles for a total of over forty hours of play. (\$40), for Windows and Macintosh) Strategic Simulations, Inc., 675 Almanor Ave., Suite 201, Sunnyvale, CA 94086-2901. (408)737-6800.

You Don't Know Jack

You Don't Know Jack is a multiplayer CD-ROM game that gives users the sensation of being a contestant on a challenging and irreverent television game show. It combines classic trivia with pop culture references in a witty, brain-twisting mixture that's as challenging as it is entertaining. Over eight hundred questions are divided into three categories: Multiple Choice, Gibberish, and Jack Attack. If a player

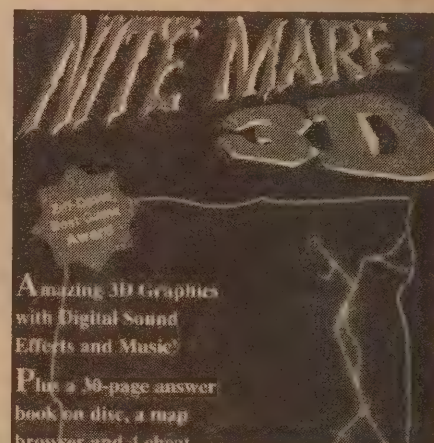


doesn't know the answer to a Multiple Choice question, he or she can choose the score-saving feature, Screw Your Neighbor. Gibberish questions are rhyming puzzles worth big bucks. The Jack Attack is the third and final round of every game and consists of association questions that ask players to match two phrases or words that directly relate to a given clue. (special introductory price of \$30; for Macintosh

and Windows) Berkeley Systems, Inc., 2095 Rose St., Berkeley, CA 94709. (510)540-5535.

Nite Mare 3D

Nite Mare 3-D is a thriller game to compete with DOOM and features 3D graphics to provide a setting of striking realism that draws the player into the game. The



objective is to destroy all the evil spirits and horrifying beasts that are trying to kill the player. The game takes place in a horror house, where the player navigates through numerous corridors and rooms. Complementing the visual effects, there is high-quality digital music and sound effects that help add to the eerie atmosphere. For novice players, there is a 30-page answer book and a map browser on disk when assistance is needed. If the going gets really tough, players can refer to the four cheat models included with the game. (\$39) Accurate Research, Inc., 1500 Wyatt Dr., Suite 10, Santa Clara, CA 95054. (408)748-9988.

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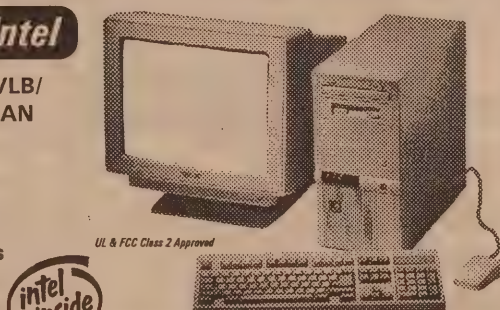
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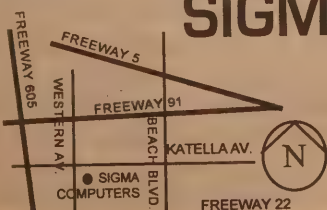
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Fun And Games: The ^{Annual} 3rd Holiday Gift Guide

New Products...



section. The tutorial teaches users about reading music notation and the basic fundamentals of music. These concepts are brought to life through thirteen centuries of musical styles and pieces from famous composers. After listening to a music sample in the tutorial, users can launch the same piece in the personal studio for further explorations. Also, users can display their creativity by producing original compositions. There are several ways for users to create original compositions: record music from any MIDI instrument, use a mouse to select notes to position on the musical staff, and alter pieces from the tutorial. (\$99.95) Midisoft Corp., PO Box 1000, Bellevue, WA 98009. 1-800-776-6134, (206)391-3610.

Player Piano

This multimedia CD-ROM teaches users how to play their favorite songs on the piano. Featuring a unique learning environment, it adapts song-based learning sessions to match the students' evolving skill levels with the difficulty of the music while providing qualitative feedback on their progress. The software features forty songs, with easy and difficult versions for most. Classical, rock, traditional, and popular genres are covered. The Add Song feature enables students to easily import any MIDI song. Player Piano will then teach that new song in the same way as those included in the program. It analyzes the song's difficulty, respective to the student's skill level, and presents learning sessions to help the student learn to play the song. In addition, more than four hundred music theory lessons, based on contemporary learning methods, are included in the software. (\$79.95) Midisoft Corp., PO

Box 1000, Bellevue, WA 98009. 1-800-776-6134, (206)391-3610.

Digital Orchestrator Plus

Digital Orchestrator Plus is an inexpensive but powerful MIDI/digital audio sequencer for Windows. It allows for the recording or playing of independent digital audio tracks that can be synchronized with MIDI



tracks. Capacity for digital tracks is limited only by a user's hardware. For example, a 90MHz Pentium can record approximately eight 22K mono tracks synchronized with MIDI tracks, or four tracks at a 44K sample rate. Full drag-and-drop digital audio editing features such as cut, copy, paste, and merge are also provided, permitting the layering of tracks to make space for additional recording. Also, unlimited blending (bouncing) of tracks is possible without the increased noise or signal degradation found in tape decks. Further features include support for multiple sample rates and the ability to import WAV files. (\$159.95, owners of MIDI Orchestrator Plus can upgrade for \$49.95) Voyetra Technologies, Inc., 5 Odell Plaza, Yonkers, NY 10701-1406. (914)966-0600, 1-800-233-9377.

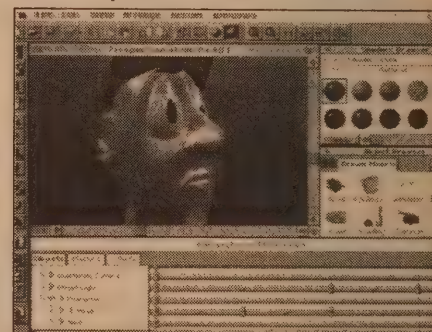
Discovering Music

Discovering Music CD (for Windows) lets users jam with a virtual band, create and print sheet music, record and mix unique musical compositions, and explore music history and theory—all through four interactive modules: Jammin' Keys, Music Writer, Recording Station, and Music Conservatory. The Music Conservatory, for example, guides users through five musi-



cal arenas—The History of Music, Great Composers, Music Theory, Music Instruments, and Music Glossary—incorporating color graphics, audio examples, full-motion video, and hypertext links to stimulate the eyes, ears, and mind. Digital audio is used throughout for an enhanced listening experience. (\$79.95) Voyetra Technologies, Inc., 5 Odell Plaza, Yonkers, NY 10701-1406. (914)966-0600, 1-800-233-9377.

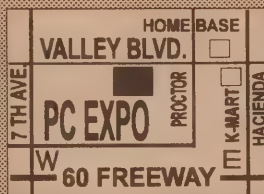
Ray Dream Studio



Ray Dream Studio is the first advanced, affordable, fully integrated 3-D imaging suite for creating 3-D illustrations and animations on the desktop. It seamlessly integrates four components—Ray Dream Designer 4, Ray Dream Animator, Dream Models, and Extensions Portfolio—that combine advanced illustration and animation features with unparalleled ease of use to meet the needs of both the experienced professional and the 3-D novice. This integration provides users with a faster, much more intuitive way to access system functions, reducing both the product learning curve and project completion time. (\$499, for Windows and Macintosh) Ray Dream, Inc., 1804 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View, CA 94043. (415)960-0768.

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New Products...

Sound Suite



Sound Suite for Windows is a large, versatile collection of business audio and multimedia presentation applications. It allows users to employ sound in numerous situations to take full advantage of their multimedia PCs. Sound Suite includes Voyetra's Multimedia Productivity Pack, MIDI Orchestrator Plus, and Music Gallery, in addition to a comprehensive library of graphic and video files. The Multimedia Productivity Pack alone contains fourteen programs that provide a complete set of tools for multimedia management in a uniform environment. (\$199.95) Voyetra Technologies, 5 Odell Plaza, Yonkers, NY 10701. 1-800-233-9377.

KPT Power Photos II

KPT Power Photos II contains 375 RGB TIFF images that have been designed to be used in digital imaging, all on five Mac/Windows CD-ROMs. They contain powerful computer shortcuts, such as blue screen constructed transfectance channels, prepress-ready page layouts,

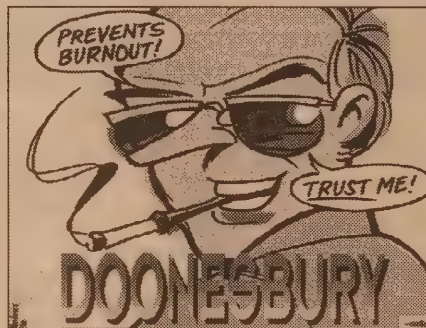


and already color balanced and sharpened imaging. Power Photos II consists of volumes 6 through 10, covering images of Kids Toys & Backgrounds, Hot Rods, Bugs &

Butterflies, Nostalgia, and Fall & Winter Holidays. In addition, there are time-saving extras like the shadows on all the objects fall consistently in the same direction, and convenient channels let users simply select and load images to obtain a clean silhouette. (\$199) HSC Software, 6303 Carpinteria Ave., Carpinteria, CA 93013. (805)566-6200.

Screen Savers Doonesbury

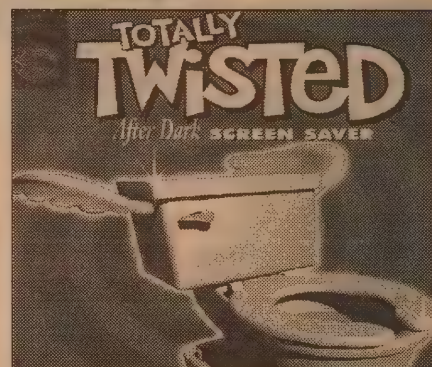
The Doonesbury Screen Saver is the first screen saver with a social agenda. The ten animated modules include CHIP Shot, wherein California peace officer B.D. shoots away your spreadsheet, retrieves and replaces it, only to blow it away again;



Sin Lobby, with big-time reprobates Mr. Butts, Jay, Brewski, and Dum Dum swimming across your screen, showing cheerful disregard for their social consequences; and Grassy Knoll, which allows sufferers of information overload to get back to basics by teaming up with Zonker to watch the grass grow. Doonesbury Screen Saver is the first in Mindscape's Doonesbury Toonscapes series. Future titles include: The Doonesbury Election Game: Campaign '96 and Doonesbury Flashbacks: 25 Years of Serious Fun. (\$34.95 for Windows floppy disk) Mindscape, Inc., 88 Rowland Way, Novato, CA 94945. (415)897-9900.

Totally Twisted

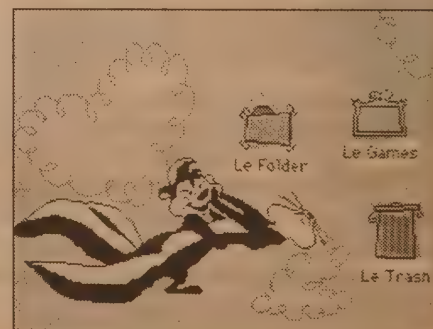
Berkeley Systems' new After Dark screen saver, Totally Twisted, features thirteen outrageously warped and fully animated displays, with dozens of custom options.



With an interactive Mime Hunt, bungee jumping cows, and a pack of crass chameleons, this is a screen saver for those who walk on the weirder side of the street. Instead of Flying Toasters, Totally Twisted After Dark presents Flying Toilets, complete with occupants and customizable toilet paper. Hit the caps lock key and hear the computer flush your troubles down the drain. Other options include viewing the twisted underwater denizens of a toxic waste dump, Phlegm Boy, and Boris the cat meets Mowin' Man in Mowin' Boris. (\$29.95 for Mac and Windows) Berkeley Systems, Inc., 2095 Rose St., Berkeley, CA 94709. (510)540-5535.

Looney Tunes

Beginning as cartoon shorts on the movie screen and then moving to the television screen, Looney Tunes are now available for the computer screen. The Looney Tunes Screen Saver features twelve animated modules based on Warner Bros.' timeless classics including Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd, the Road Runner, and Marvin the Martian, along with Sylvester and Tweety. Ever wonder where Wile E. Coyote got those amazing gizmos? Call ACME Home Shopping



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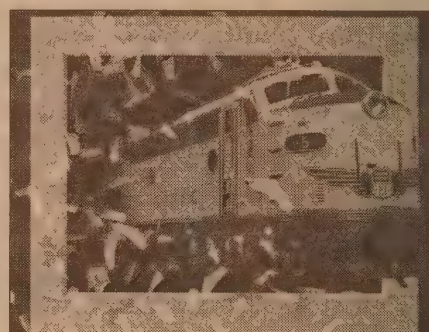
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New Products...continued from page 240

and choose from instant tornado seeds, rocket-powered roller skates, or assorted picnic ants—it can all be yours, but only while supplies last. There is also a lesson in cartoon science in Cartoon 101—a look at the “physical laws” that govern the world of Warner Bros. cartoons. (\$29.99 for Windows and Macintosh; available on CD and diskette) Berkeley Systems, Inc., 2095 Rose St., Berkeley, CA 94709. (510)540-5535.

Trains: The Screen Saver



This Windows CD-ROM is the ideal screen saver for train lovers and hobbyists. It has several modules of railroading fun. MovieShow provides users with a library of digitized movies of real and model steam and diesel engines and trains or gives them the option of adding their own custom movie scripts. Slide Show contains a library of train photos and illustrations that play at random. CrissCross offers a top view of railroad trains going back and forth across the screen on tracks laid out in a maze of crossings. With Desktop Mover, trains run by, occasionally stopping to grab a chunk of the screen and carry it away. Six other modules ensure the action never stops. (\$59.95) Abracadata, Ltd., PO Box 2440, Eugene, OR 97402. 1-800-451-4871.

Psychedelic Screen Saver Collection

The Psychedelic Screen Saver Collection v1.1 is a shareware collection of screen savers, each of which generates a different class of mesmerizing patterns. As the patterns materialize on the screen, the colors shift and undulate. The algorithms used in these screen savers were originally conceived as part of an art project that the programmer worked on at Evergreen State College. Available from <http://www.halcyon.com/pixel/psych.htm> and on CompuServe (search for psych11.zip), they are available in 16- and 32-bit versions for Windows NT, 95, and 3.1x and for Berkeley Systems' After Dark v3.0. (\$20) NorthStar Solutions, PO Box 25262, Columbia, SC 29224. 1-800-699-6395. Mike Irvine, pixel@halcyon.com.

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New Products...

CD-ROM Drives

MultiSpin 4Xc

The MultiSpin 4Xc CD-ROM drive, a quad-speed, seven-disc changer, allows users to load multiple-disc applications simultaneously or store their favorite single-disc titles. Users also can play compact discs while running software applications. The ergonomically designed changer features a tray-loading mechanism, eliminating the need for caddies and disc cartridges and greatly reducing the potential for damage to the surface of the CD. Designed for multiple-platform compatibility, the MultiSpin 4Xc works with PC and Macintosh systems. (\$349) NEC Technologies, Inc., 1255 Michael Dr., Wood Dale, IL 60191. (708)860-9500.

Panasonic KXL-D721 Bundle

The KXL-D721 multimedia bundle for portable computers includes Panasonic's KXL-D720 PCMCIA portable CD-ROM drive, a battery-powered speaker system, a Sound/SCSI card, and ESS Audio Sound Suite software. The double-speed CD-ROM drive weighs just 14oz. and operates on AC power or six AA batteries, providing up to two hours of use. A power save feature reverts to the sleep mode after four minutes of nonusage. The amplified speakers together weigh approximately .5lb and are powered by two AA batteries with a life span of thirty three hours at maximum volume. The ESS Audio Sound Suite software provides both play and record capabilities. The software features a mixer, audio clip library, talking calendar and clock, audio reminder for appointments, and a stopwatch/timer. Users can create their own recordings with a clip-on lapel microphone. The KXL-D721 is compatible with DOS, Windows 3.1, and Windows 95, and requires a minimum of one PCMCIA Type II slot. For systems without card managers, a point enabler device driver will automatically be loaded, allowing the CD-ROM drive to operate. (\$599) Panasonic Communications & Systems Co., 1-800-742-8086.

CD Anywhere

CD Anywhere is a compact (9.5" x 6.13" x 2.25") quad-speed CD-ROM drive that plugs into the parallel printer port of any



continued on page 250

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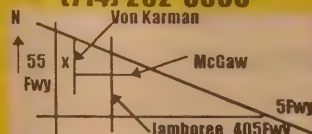
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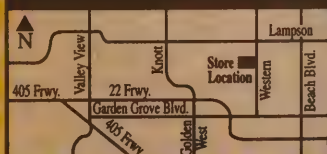
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New Products...continued from page 245

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Toshiba Internal CD-ROM Drive

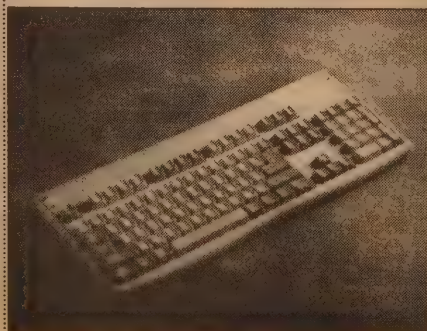
The new XM-1302B is a quad-speed, super-slim internal CD-ROM drive designed specifically for notebook computers. Measuring only 17mm high, this drive was engineered using a very thin optical pick-up head and a newly developed drive mechanism. While designed to meet minimal size requirements, Toshiba developed the drive to fully meet MPC-3 specifications. Toshiba's variable speed playback system and digital servo control allow the drive to read data before the disc rotational speed reaches any of one, two, or four times standard rotational speeds. More particularly, the drive can read data once the disc rotational speed reaches a range of +/- 50% of each speed up to a maximum of five times rotational speed. In addition, the 5V power supply reduces power consumption to an average of 2.7W. Toshiba America Information Systems, Inc., Disk Products Division, 9740 Irvine Blvd., Irvine, CA 92718.

Keyboards & Pointing Devices

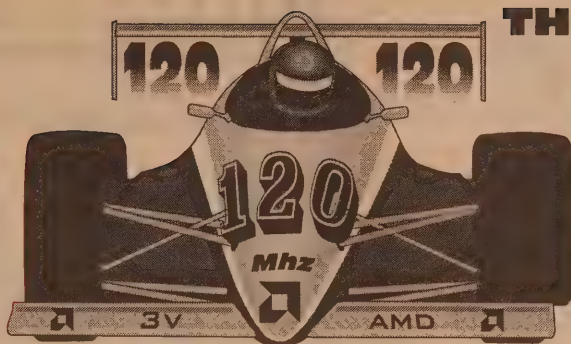
ZW 104 keyboard

Mitsumi's ZW 104 keyboard includes three new keys that make Windows computing easier. A Windows Key is used by the

Windows 95 operating system as a hot key to allow easy access to functions such as task switching and instant availability of the Task Manager window. Two additional Application Keys are supported by applications designed for Windows 95 for a variety of ease-of-use and productivity.



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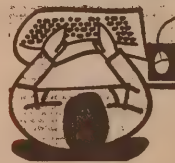
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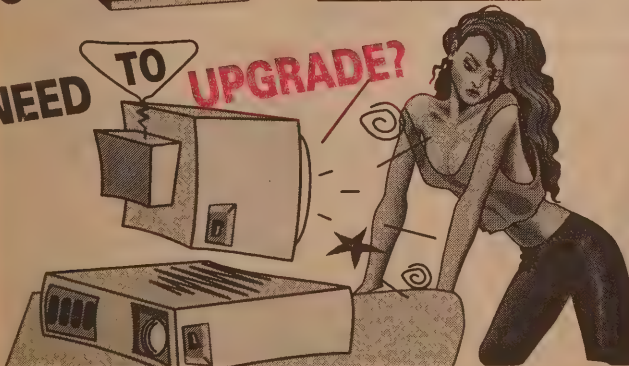
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enhancing functions. Additionally, the ZW 104 keyboard has been designed for ergonomic comfort. (\$34.95) Mitsumi Electronics Corp., 6210 N. Beltline Rd., Suite 170, Irving, TX 75063. (214)550-7300.

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Based on Synaptics, Inc.'s award-winning neural-based human interface technology, Touché Touch Pad replaces mechanical pointing devices such as mice or trackballs with an intuitive device that lets users drag, click, and double-click with a finger motion across a touch-sensitive surface. With Edge Motion, when users drag objects on-screen and their finger reaches Touché's edge, the cursor continues in the same direction until the finger is lifted or gently rolled back. This allows users to reach their cursor destination in one fluid motion. Touché's X-Y-Z Mode enables left and right motion and offers pressure sensitivity so users can drag and double-tap objects with the touch of a finger. Control Panel software allows users to adjust touch sensitivity, customize features, and enable or disable gestures. Touché Touch Pad is available for serial, PS/2, and ADB interfaces. (\$59.99) International Technologies Associates, 3000 Bridgeway Blvd., Sausalito, CA 94965. (415)331-6622.

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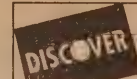
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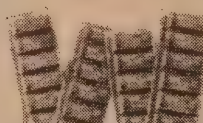
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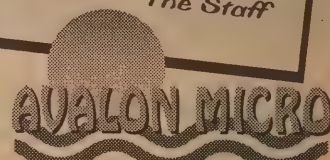
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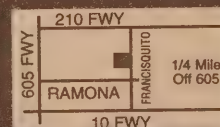
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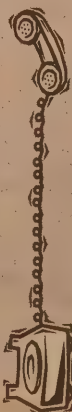
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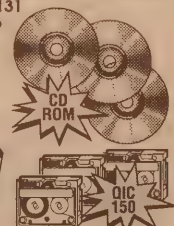
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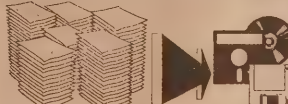
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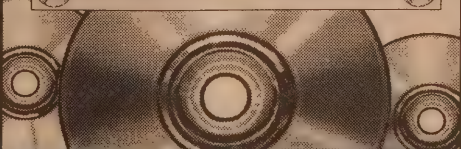
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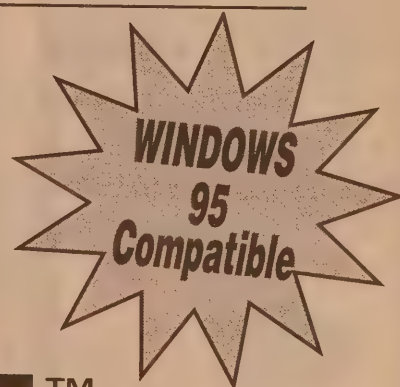
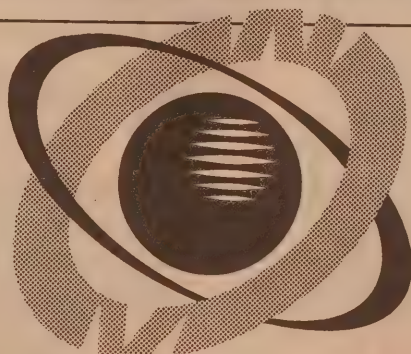
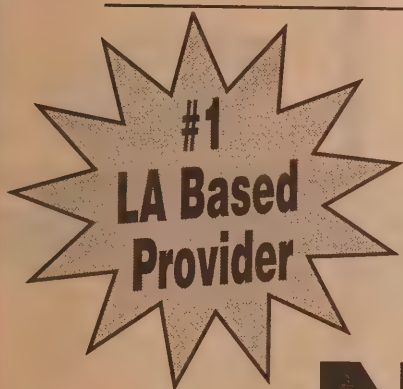
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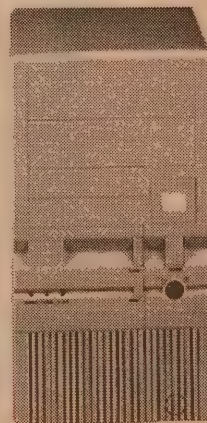
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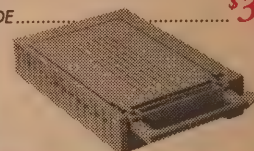
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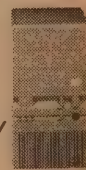
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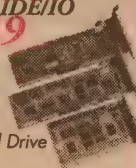
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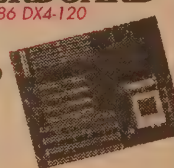
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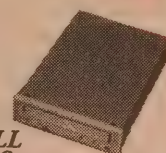
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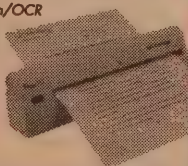
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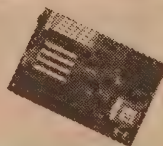
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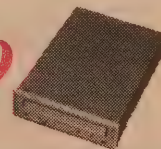
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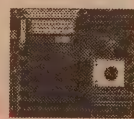
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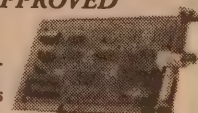


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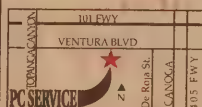
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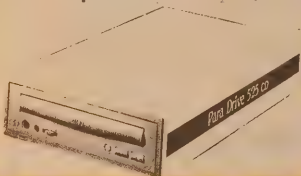
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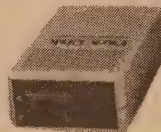
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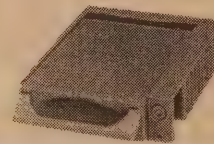
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Pentium Soundbook

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Pentium-100	\$2325	\$2550

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- * 32-bit graphic accelerator
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- * Enhanced 101 key keyboard
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- * Enhanced 101 key keyboard
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- * Enhanced 101 key keyboard
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- * Double-speed (2X) CD-ROM drive
- * 140 Watt Hi-Fi stereo speakers

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- * Intel Zappa /256K \$230
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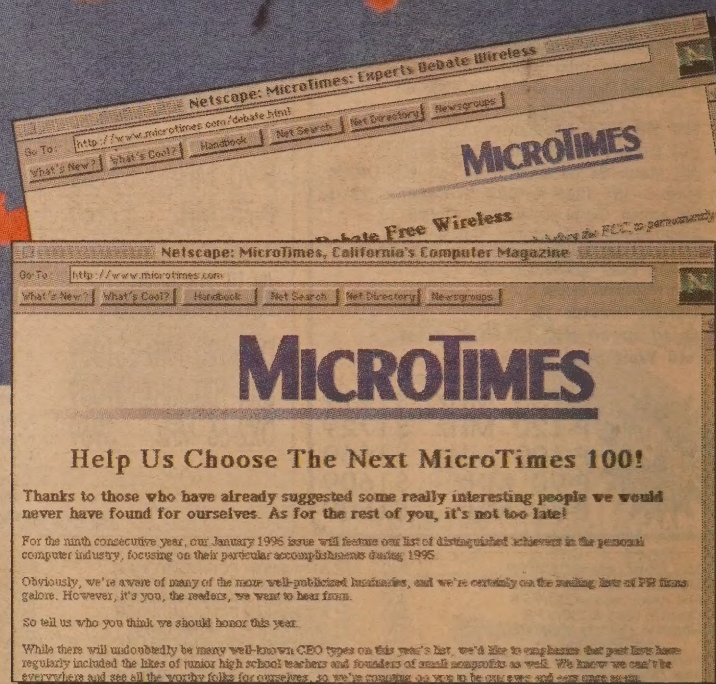
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Thanks to those who have already suggested some really interesting people we would never have found for ourselves. As for the rest of you, it's not too late!

For the ninth consecutive year, our January 1996 issue will feature our list of distinguished achievers in the personal computer industry, focusing on their particular accomplishments during 1995.

Obviously, we're aware of many of the more well-publicized headlines, and we're certainly on the mailing lists of EW, Time, and others. However, it's you, the readers, we want to hear from.

So tell us who you think we should honor this year.

While there will undoubtedly be many well-known CEO types on this year's list, we'd like to emphasize that past lists have regularly included the likes of junior high school teachers and founders of small nonprofits as well. We know we can't be everywhere and see all the worthy folks for ourselves, so we're counting on you to be our eyes and ears when we can't.

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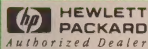
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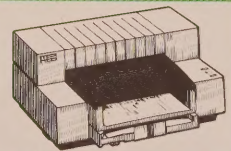
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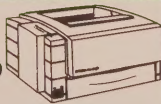
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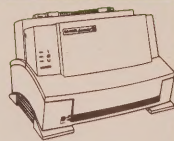
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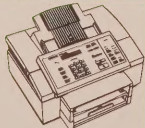


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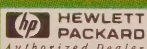
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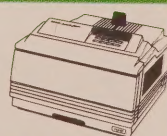
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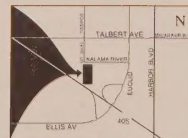
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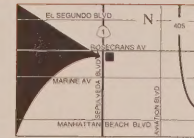
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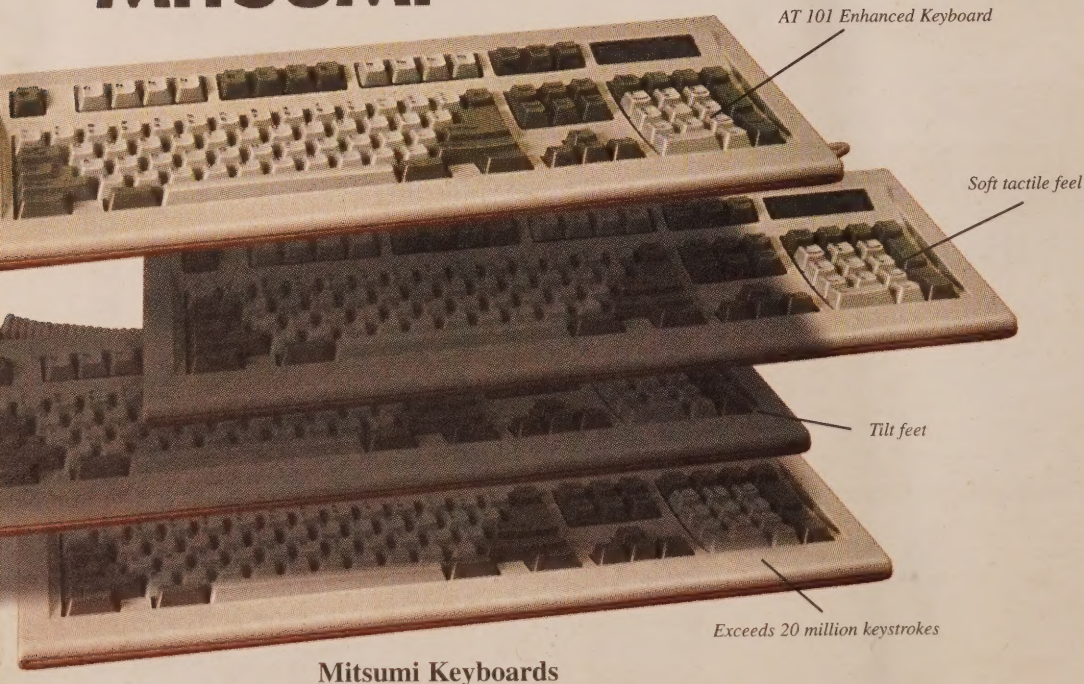
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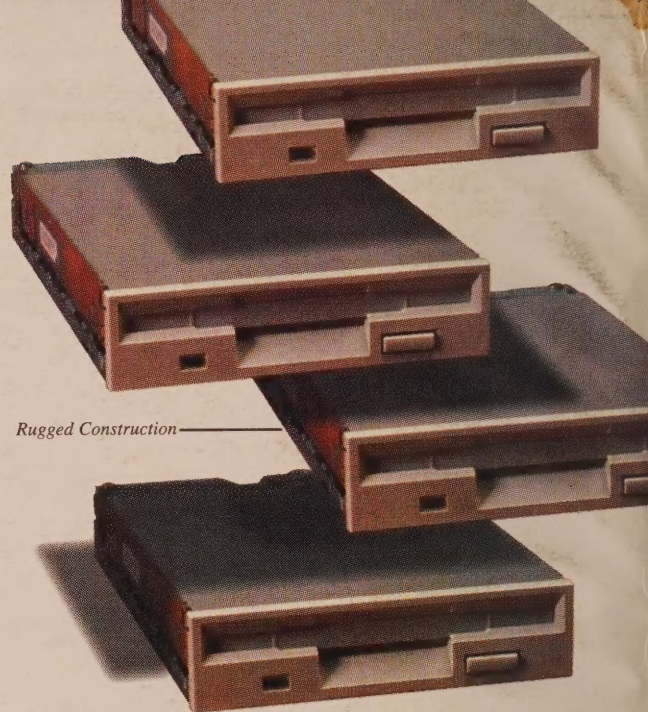
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